2003
BOMB

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE
2003
THE BOMB

The 2003 BOMB

Virginia Military Institute
Lexington, Virginia 24450
Volume 109

Table of Contents

Introduction *4*

Cadet Life *10*

Chain of Command *32*

Classes *74*

Sports *264*

Clubs *286*

Outrage *302*

Advertisements *298*

Looking Forward To Looking Back

We've lasted.

It has been 164 years since Francis H. Smith's experiment in leadership was founded on the plateau above Lexington.

Other schools have faded away while the concept of military college has slipped from the scope of American education.

Kentucky Military Institute, Pennsylvania Military Institute and the pure Corps of Virginia Tech have all vanished while VMI has remained.

Diehard alumni talk about the "Old Corps" with a haughty tone, and complain about changes since they've left Limits Gate for the last time as cadets.

But as much as we look to the past for examples, the essence of VMI remains the same.

Cadets and recent graduates are too close to see that shifts in procedure do not change the soul of the school.

In any Bomb, with the exception of the mid-1970s when haircut standards were relaxed, the cadets look the same.

The First Class sits in variations of their white uniforms, looking forward to graduation.

Their histories record inside jokes about studying late, nights of drinking and trouble with the opposite sex.

The rats still try to look tough when they have their portraits made. Some are more successful than others.

There is an article in "The Cadet" from 1929 that reports the fourth class was overcrowding barracks.

Cadets dabbled with the idea of co-education as early as the 1957 Bomb.

There were opinion articles in old issues of "The Cadet" that complain of a weaker Ratline in the 1970s.

We talk about change but the elements remain.

The life is still hard.

In Bombs past there are candid pictures of engineers asleep at their desks, heads resting on graph paper, passed out from sheer mental exhaustion.

The life is still lonely.

There are pictures of solitary cadets in monochrome uniforms marching post in the cold twilight of late December.

The life can still be unfair.

But when it's over, and graduates leave with a sheepskin diploma in their hand, they are pulled back to the soul of the school that does not change.

Every year the crowds of Brother Rats flood back to the school to celebrate their hardships and their victory over a system designed to subject an individual to a tougher standard that the rest of America has thrown up its hands and walked away from.

It's the bond we share with every soul who signed the matriculation book.

It's the same line we have all crossed that binds us together in a spirit that transcends how much money we have, our country, our race, and now our gender.

The world will change, and we will remain.

- Sam LaGrone '03

The world will change

*and **we** will **remain**.*

We've lasted.

2003

VMI History Didn't Just Start to be Unique

The history of VMI consists of such a vast wealth of information, that it is almost a crime to discuss just several of the pertinent facts. Sure, the Battle of New Market was a defining moment in this Institute's life. But so were many other smaller events that still sent ripples through the organic being that is VMI history. On this this page, we shall attempt to explore just a few of those many notable moments of the past 164 years.

On the 16th of October 1859 a Northern abolitionist, John Brown, raided a massive military arsenal in Harpers Ferry, Virginia. In the commando mission, Brown and his old school terrorists cut the telegraph wires, slit the throats of the watchmen, and either killed or captured the remaining troops guarding the millions of dollars' worth of armaments. After Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Lee successfully reclaimed the armament and arrested the abolitionist, a brief trial sentenced Brown to death. Rumors spread about a possible rescue mission or invasion conducted by Brown sympathizers. Virginia Governor Wise ordered Colonel Francis H. Smith to station this Corps of Cadets in Charleston to protect the town from such possible outcomes. Seems as if they knew even then what an issue that whole slavery thing would all become. Eighty-five infantry cadets manned positions around the gallows and Major Thomas (future "Stonewall") Jackson oversaw the twenty-one artillery cadets and their weapons. After the successful hanging of the abolitionist Brown, the cadets were ordered to parade through Richmond before returning to Lexington. Today's Corps of Cadets can proudly commemorate this occasion.

Controversy has always found a way to seep its always-interesting and never-boring way into VMI affairs. This was the case in 1859 as well as in late 1951 when one of the most dramatic Step-offs occurred. Of course, the definition back then implied any act by the upper classes in defiance of the administration. Today, a step-off implies a massive undertaking to check the

administration, usually involving a suspension of some administrative rules and many penalty tours handed out to First Classmen. In the early days of December 1951 the Officer in Charge (OC) checked the second stoop on that sacred night that even the most heinous of officers respect: Ring Figure. In response the 4th class was unleashed and encouraged to rampage. The Corps stood by condoning and supporting the ensuing chaos. The turnout system was destroyed along with many stoop lights. The Sentinel Box, along with much of Barracks' interior, were set ablaze to what was apparently seen all the way in town. The fire was only partially hampered by the massive flooding caused by all faucets and showers in the bathrooms being left running. Finally, the Officers' Quarters were thoroughly trashed and the four cannons (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) were brought into Barracks and pointed at the OC. Commandant Pancake formed the entire corps up at 0040 hours for a march through the East of Lexington that lasted more than 12 miles. The incident made national news and headlines. One cadet "collapsed," another suffered "back pain from a spinal injury" and all weekend privileges and permits were revoked. Of course, cadets could be exempted from these penalties if they only promised that they were in no way involved with the step-off. Furthermore, they were asked to divulge information on others whom they knew to be involved. Seems as if each respective administration learns from the dirty tricks of its predecessors.

For such controversy to arise, VMI must hold a near-spotless record for the greater part of its existence (or so we can only hope). On 15 October 1931, the Corps of Cadets were packed on a train for a week-long trip away. Three cadets packed tight onto double seats as the coaches stopped first in Charlotte for the annual Gridiron Match vs. the Virginia Cavaliers. The game was the first to be played in the newly built and dedicated Scott Stadium. Though the Cavaliers were strongly favored to win, a brutal storm of biblical proportions swept through giving the Keydets the sloppy conditions they needed. VMI embarrassed Virginia in its new stadium in front of a packed crowd, winning 18-3. The Corps quickly loaded on the trains to arrive in Yorktown around 0100 hours for the Sesquicentennial celebration and reenactment of the battle. Keydet troops dressed as 18th Century French (yes—French) and Colonial troops "fought" and paraded in front of President Herbert Hoover, General John Pershing and many others. With massive fanfare and the personal commendation of the President, the triumphant Keydets returned to Lexington. Turns out that attendance at the events was neither mandatory nor expected. The administration approved the departure for all cadets including those on restrictions. The entire corps, except the guard teams and those in the hospital, voluntarily decided to attend…again, we see that coercion is never an effective strategy compared with persuasion, rewards and general good will.

Some lessons to be learned? The Mother I nurtures a vastly interesting history for any who are interested. Drama and controversy are a mainstay here. Public executions were once a splendid opportunity for Sunday family outings and for VMI to show its loyalty and devotion to Virginia. Giving the middle finger to the administration is always a blast—just know that they have and still don't take too kindly to such gestures, so be careful. Lastly, remember that things are all relative. What may seem to some as the "death of VMI," or the "end of the class system," etc. will probably be just another factoid that some guy like me will one day read and laugh about in Preston Library.

Daniel J. Goldberg

Cadet Life

Over the last four years the Class of 2003 has seen trial after trial. Our leadership was tested time and time again, and always with wonder and question as to why. Without a doubt, the Class of 2003 met more resistance and change then any other class in the past decade. It is my truest hope that the Class System of our Institute will never fail to exist. But with the changes made over the past three years, my hopes are tempered by the expectations of the worst.

Leaders should be allowed to lead, make mistakes, and learn from those mistakes while leading. I believe this was never accomplished during my cadetship. My Brother Rats rose to the expectations of leading the Corps in a manner that would make the Institute stronger and prouder then ever before. But this was never done. Many are to blame for our feelings of failure, but most of all the blame can only lie with the leader in the end. Thus, I do blame myself.

After the September step-off of 2001, our class, and all others after us, lost what little trust we had from an administration that feared the Corps of Cadets and a changing world outside of our barracks. I feel, as many of my Brother Rats do, the ratline was never run to the full potential that we could have accomplished. A body will never grow bigger then the box it is in, and the box will become its casket. The barracks and leadership outside of our box became our casket.

I leave the Institute with hope for better days and a promise always to support the Honor and Class Systems. I can only hope that the leadership of 2003 has not only allowed trust to be rebuilt, but allowed for future the growth of leaders. Without any doubt the Class System has been at its weakest in the past few years. Over the last year, 2003 has made every effort to reinforce the Class System and prevent the desecration of it and to have growth and respect reestablished. Time spent at the "Mother I" is time earned. Rats should always have the least and Firsts should always have the most. And the most should always be enforced by the First Class.

Lastly in looking back on the Class System, two great fears appear in my eyes and in the eyes of many others. The Class System begins with the ratline. Our rats began with an ongoing experiment. This experiment was one that forced the ratline to fit within a given time frame, and within given guidelines that allowed no margin for error. That structure was one that made our rats into nothing more then a body, a mass once again, with a name, the Class of 2006. They were not ready to become a class, and with great reluctance I allowed their break-out. Only because I did not want to see a single Brother Rat be dismissed for my actions to keep our rats in the ratline. And this fear that they were not ready, bred the second. An Honor System will only be as strong as the Class System that backs it up. The failure of the Class System will result in the sure failure of the Honor System. The Institute could easily be on its way to becoming another small Virginia college.

I depart with utmost respect for my class. My greatest honor was to serve it in the capacity of its President. Above all else remember this, the Class System is the only thing that separates our Institute from other academies and institutions. And our Class System comes second only to the Honor System.

Semper Fi,

Brandon H. Turner
First Class President
Class of 2003

The General Committee

General Committee
2002-2003

First Class
Brandon Turner, President
Jon Anderson, Vice President
Chip Hancock, Historian

Second Class
Jason Quash, President
Tim Price, Vice President
Geoff Goldsmith, Historian

Third Class
Robert Oaks, President
Ben King, Vice President

The Officer of the Guard Association (OGA) is a sub-committee of the General Committee whose mission is to protect and inform cadets while upholding and enforcing the conduct of the Corps. The OGA is composed of 14 First Class Privates, the officers appointed by the General Committee and the representatives elected by their respective companies.

This year's OGA returned to VMI in August of 2002, two weeks before the Ratline began. We underwent intensive investigation and Title IX training. Also, for the first time ever, the OGA participated in all Cadre training and, for the most part, met or exceeded all of their physical standards. We were also tasked with reforming the VMI Dyke System into a more mentoring relationship, and providing the First Class with adequate dyke training prior to its return in the fall. These new dyke system expectations were added to the OGA Charter, and all training was effectively conducted. Furthermore, this year's OGA was met by a new addition to the Commandant's Staff, a Cadet Government Advisor. The Administration desired to gain insight

and oversight of the Class System. With this new administrative position came the fear of an extra oppressive administration in which the Class System would not be able to effectively function. The OGA stepped forward, met this new challenge, and did a great job of building, a strong and effective relationship with both the Commandant's Office and its new advisor. This year's OGA was an extremely dedicated and professional group who dedicated countless hours to the betterment and protection of their Class, the Corps and the Institute. All of the members served as role models as examples of a well rounded VMI Cadet. I feel honored and proud to have had the opportunity of working with each and every member of this years OGA. I would like to thank personally Andy, Joe, Mark, Danny, Lars, Vicki, Paul, Blake, T.J., Joe, Kyle and John for their tireless efforts and for somehow making it both a productive and enjoyable year. Thanks guys, I'll never forget any of you! None of our accomplishments would have been possible without you all. Congratulations on a job well done! Until we see each other again, take care and good luck in all of your personal endeavors.

Kennon Kincaid
OGA President

The Officer of the Guard Association

OFFICER OF THE GUARD ASSOCIATION
2002-2003
Kennon W. Kincaid, President
Andrew C. Biesterveld, Vice President
Joseph A. Voorhees, Secretary
Mark A. Carr, Defense Counsel
Daniel J. Goldberg, Defense Counsel

Company Representatives:
Lars H. Wagner, Alpha Company
Victoria J. Ortiz, Bravo Company
Paul M. Keddell, Charlie Company
Stephen B. Traina, Delta Company
Thomas E. Claytor, Echo Company
Joseph R. Parks, F-Troop
William K. Padgett, Golf Company
Kyle C. Pfeiffer, Hotel Company
John O. Noonan, Band Company

Cadet Government Advisor:
Colonel Thomas B. Moncure

The 2002-2003 Rat Disciplinary Committee started around Spring FTX, when Bill and I with the help of others started getting the Charter written. Our original intent was the same as past RDC's and that was to have the most demanding ratline. Everything was for the most part ready to go for the beginning of the 2002-2003 year when we left for the summer. We knew we wouldn't be around for most of Hell Week but we didn't know all of the changes that were going to be made when we returned. The fact that the Rats knew we were there during Hell Week made it intimidating and at times that is all we had. Meet the RDC was different from years past but we made it work. Once Turner and I could get things straight the RDC was allowed more chances to make Rats pay for their shortcomings. It was hard to get Sweat Parties, so we thought outside the box and began the Company Commander's workouts. With this added to the schedule along with the RDC Meetings, Rat Tours, Rat Bible Quizzes, and Road Marches we met daily and I think we were a very active RDC. John Bocek had some incredible Rat Tours that made many Rats think again about coming to see us. Our Advisors (for once not as in the past) fought for us and not against us, which was a good change for the Institute. At times it was hard to get the Rats to "show unity" to their dykes, but towards the end of first semester they did make some good attempts. The Ratline was short lived in the second semester, and with me gone Talley took my place. The RDC didn't have much time to work with the rats, but it tried to best prepare them for Breakout. The RDC did a great job administering the Ratline and making Breakout as successful as it could possibly be.

Brandon R. Matthews
RDC President

The Rat Disciplinary Committee

MEMBERSHIP, CLASS OF 2003
Brandon R. Matthews, President
William H. Talley, Vice-President
John L. Bocek, Secretary
Matthew W. Kluk, Operation Officer
Roy B. Perry, Operation Officer

First Class Members

Craig A. Blackwood
Derrick J. Brown
Justin A. Fentress
Robert J. Hedglen
Ronald J. Ingram
Toby J. Kearney
Andrew W. Marsh
David B. Mayo
David J. Narcum
Sam C. Newsome
Paul D. Quinn
Alex C. Rizzato
Spencer E. Robbins
Josh J. Robinson
Alexander D. Samms
Jay D. Splain
David R. Tavenner
David Walker

Second Class Members
Ross A. Garnett
Hrvoje S. Glasnovic
Ray F. L'Heureux
Michael J. McHugh

When we arrived, we had subtle ideologies, famous characterizations, and misguided interpretations of what it was. Now, we truly know what honor is. One of the most important lessons we learned in our four years here was that the rest of the world is not like us. We, in essence, set the standard now of what an honorable individual is. We walk from these hallowed halls knowing that the rest of the world really doesn't understand us; but that's ok. That makes our bond so much stronger because we truly know what it means to live and breath honor everyday of our life. For four years we have been forced to understand, know, and sometimes interpret what being honorable is. It amazes me how difficult it is to make someone truly understand how the honor system here is unless they have lived it. Trying to explain to your parents or girlfriend why you have to be back before 11 pm is something all too familiar to us all. They just don't understand. They don't understand why, if we don't make it back before taps, that we will have to voluntarily walk into the Commandant's office and receive a large penalty, all because we were one measly second late. Why we have to do the same thing if we are on confinement and check our mail without signing out and a confinement check is run before we make it back to our room. They just don't understand. And the simple fact is, they never will. That is why when we finally do graduate, and move on with our lives, we will always have honor with us, bonding us to one another. Because we are the only ones who truly understand what it means to be honorable.

FIRST CLASS REPRESENTATIVES
Matthew K. McQueen, Justin A. Vorassi, Mark T. Davis, Douglas P. Bahrns, Christopher T. Walsh, and David C. Woody

Outsiders will claim to understand what we went through or who we are but we know that they really have no idea. I laugh when people from Va. Tech or even The Citadel try to compare our honor system with theirs. We are the only school in the nation in which the honor code is completely and totally run by the students. Because of problems in the past at other schools, they were forced to initiate a program in which administrators all but completely run the system. I salute VMI for not giving in when times were hard in the past. The true essence of VMI is our honor system and the fact that it is completely and solely run by the cadets. Honor is one of the main principles that our school was founded on, and continues to be so to this day. Although it is hard right now to feel any sort of pride about VMI, some day, you will. Some day, you will be just like the alumni of the present who give so much money. We all claim that we will never return to this God forbidden place or ever give money, but we will. You will. When we are older we will stick our chests out with pride at the fact that we graduated from this "horrible" place. It has been long, it has been hard, it has come at a great price, but soon, the price paid will be returned to us tenfold.

For those who are left behind at this dreaded, but often-celebrated institution, I challenge you to hold strong to those values founded by our forefathers. Continue on and make the honor system even stronger then it is today. Don't give in when you know you won't be caught. Stay strong. For those of you who continue on with your dishonorable ways, rest assured, you will be caught. Sadly, it happens all too often. Individuals believe that because they got away with something the first time they can continually break the honor code. The fact is that they are usually always caught. And to those of you who are running this dangerous course, I will just simply ask you to leave. The fact that you are at a school that prides itself entirely in producing honorable individuals, yet you continue not to be just doesn't make sense. How can you continue on with a fake attitude about this entire place, graduate knowing that you are dishonorable, but then take so much pride in the fact that you come from a place that is based on honor knowing that you are not. Your entire life will be a lie. Our school has no such place for individuals like you, so do us all a favor and leave.

To my brother rats I say thank you for entrusting to me the honor system, our most coveted value. Thank you for the four years of continual learning about myself and what it takes to make it, even when times seem impossible. I wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavors and remember, the code will never leave you.

To Kurt Iversen I say thank you for the knowledge and understanding you taught me, and the ability to discover things not yet known. You were, and continue to be, my mentor. Rest in peace.

Christopher C. Walsh
President, VMI Honor Court

The Honor Court

HONOR COURT MEMBERS 2002-2003

FIRST CLASS REPRESENTATIVES
Christopher C. Walsh – President
Justin A. Vorrasi – Vice President
Mark T. Davis – Prosecutor
Matthew K. McQueen – Prosecutor
Douglas P. Bahrns – Vice President for Investigation
David C. Woody – Vice President for Investigation

SECOND CLASS REPRESENTATIVES
Thomas W. Beale – Assistant Prosecutor
Edward Chen – Assistant Prosecutor
Thomas C. DeShazor – Assistant Prosecutor
Noah W. Diehl – Assistant Prosecutor
Roderick V. James – Assistant Prosecutor
David M. Poldiak – Assistant Prosecutor

VMI Showcased on *Good Morning America*

The November 11th broadcast of ABC's morning news program, "Good Morning America," was live from Lexington, starting at 7 a.m. from VMI. Throughout the broadcast's first hour, VMI was both the focus and the backdrop of the program, with anchors Diane Sawyer and Charlie Gibson interviewing numerous cadets both in barracks and in Crozet Hall.

The Lexington broadcast of "Good Morning America" began a special weeklong southern swing as ABC NEWS continues "One Nation, One Year," a 50-states tour across America.

The public was invited and gathered along the east, west, and south sides of the Parade Ground, braving persistent rain. It formed a backdrop of spectators seen live on the morning show.

Following the 7 a.m. broadcast from VMI, "Good Morning America" continued in downtown Lexington with a Veterans' Day Parade including the VMI Regimental Band and Color Guard, and closed from Washington & Lee University.

Diane and Charlie in Crozet Hall.

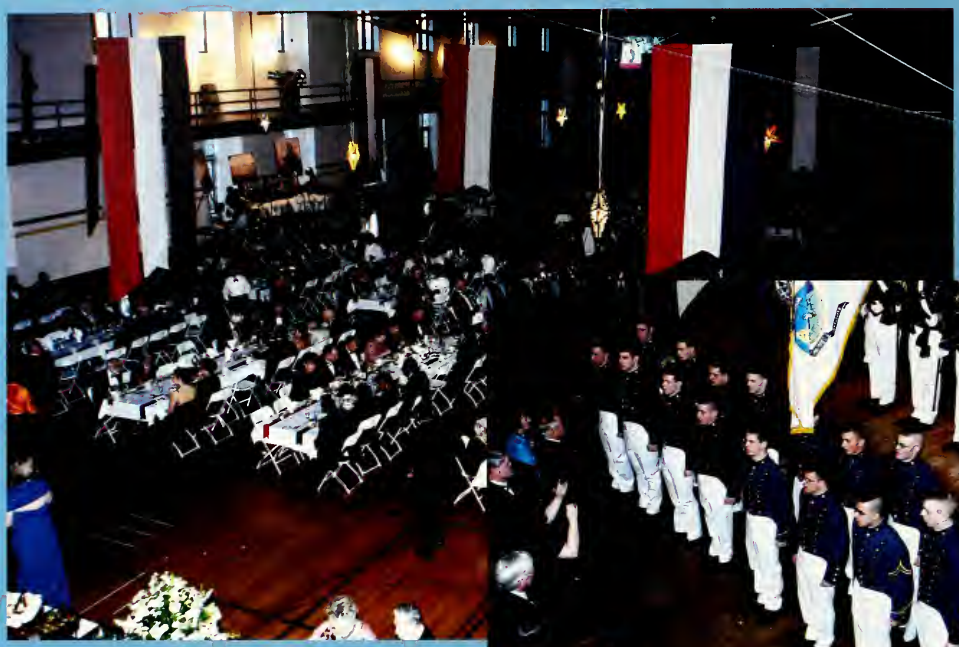
Now in its 26th year, "GMA" continues to be seen by millions of Americans who wake up to the show for news, information, interviews and weather. The program covers important issues with news figures around the world and presents timely, pertinent information concerning a wide spectrum of topics, including medicine, finance, consumer issues, computer technology, science, health and fitness, the environment, entertainment, education and gardening.

"Good Morning America" airs weekdays from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. on the Lynchburg ABC affiliate WSET-TV 13.

The broadcast opened in the midst of BRC formation & reveille at 7 a.m.

Cadet Jim White '05 shows off the inside of his hat to Charlie & Diane.
The GMA hosts were fascinated by the collections of photos and other artifacts cadets keep inside their hats.

Lexington Premiere of the movie *Gods and Generals* held at VMI



Parts of the movie were filmed at VMI

Cadets attend Washington Premiere of *Gods and Generals*

Memorable Moments

September 11 Community Observance

The Hon. George Allen Visits the "I"

Sanai Shipplett receives the VMI Achievement Medal

William and Mary
Corps Trip

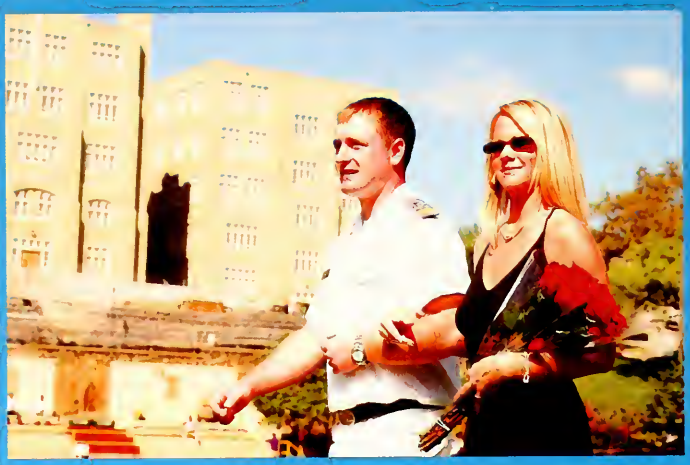
DIAMOND SPRINGS

Charlotte
Corps Trip

VMI defeats The Citadel 23 – 21

HOMECOMING 2002

Foxtrot
Lindsey Harrington



Golf
Laura Beth Hickman

Delta
Andrea Cecilia Sastri

Echo
Queen Denise Marie Jenkins

Band
Emily Ann Moffett

Charlie
Jennifer Anne Hendricks

Hotel
Kathryn Lee Phillips

Bravo
Lori Joanne Glenn

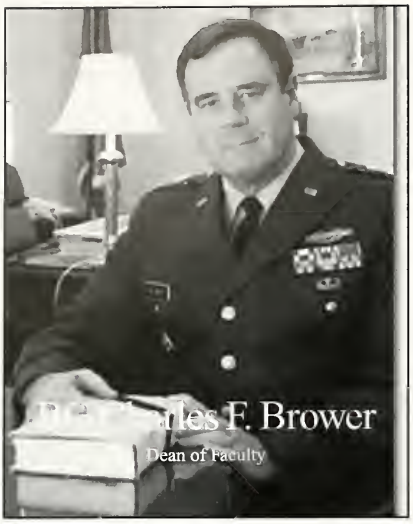
Alpha
Sarah Kathleen Meriwether

Chain of Command

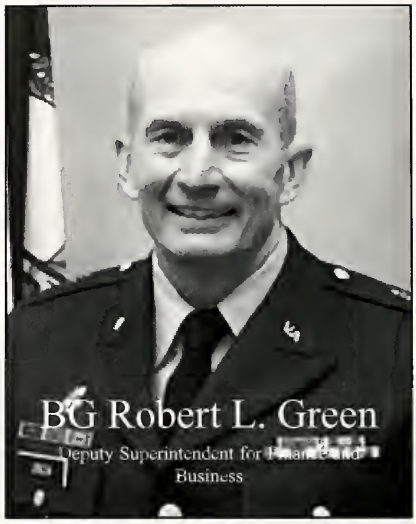
VMI Chain of Command

Governor Mark R. Warner
Commander-in-Chief

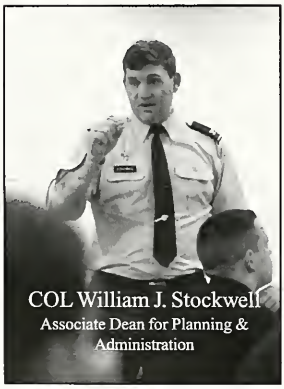
LTG Josiah Bunting III
Superintendent



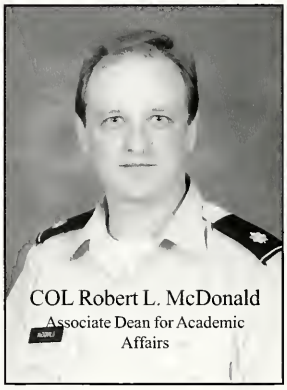
Charles F. Brower
Dean of Faculty



BG Robert L. Green
Deputy Superintendent for Finance and Business



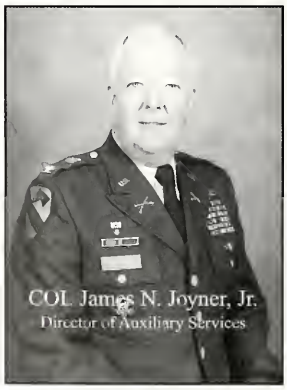
COL William J. Stockwell
Associate Dean for Planning & Administration



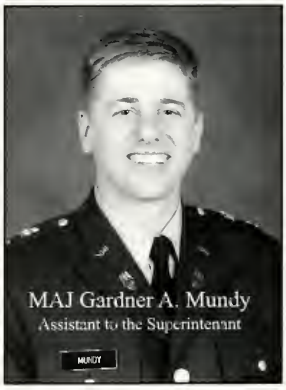
COL Robert L. McDonald
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

COL Michael M. Strickler

COL Leroy D. Hammond
Headquarters Executive Officer

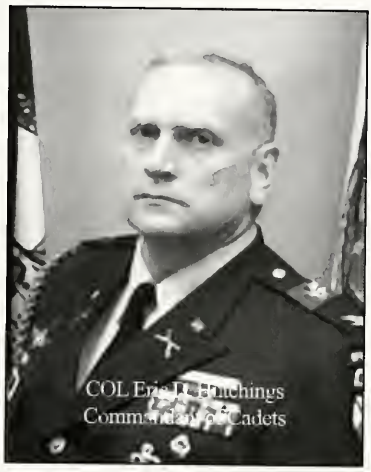


COL James N. Joyner, Jr.
Director of Auxiliary Services

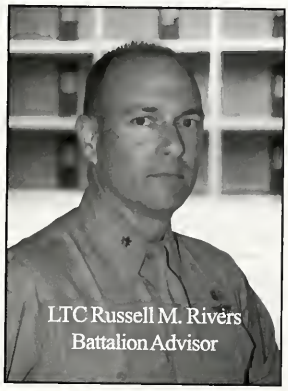


MAJ Gardner A. Mundy
Assistant to the Superintendent

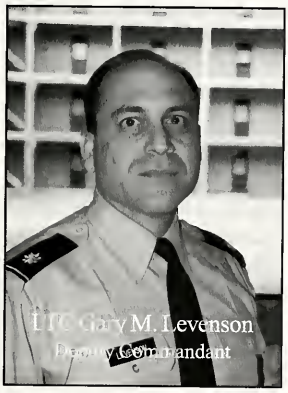
COL Thomas B. [illegible]
Cadet Government Advisor



COL Eric H. Hutchings
Commandant of Cadets



LTC Russell M. Rivers
Battalion Advisor



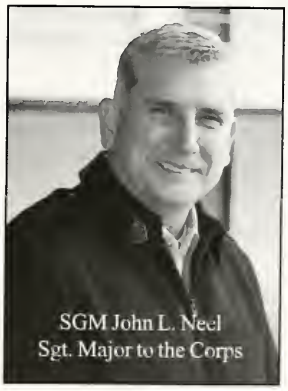
LTC Gary M. Levenson
Deputy Commandant

MAJ Gary A. Bissell
Asst. Commandant S-3

[illegible] Fridley
[illegible]mandant

COL L.E. Hurlbut
Asst. Commandant for Cadet Life

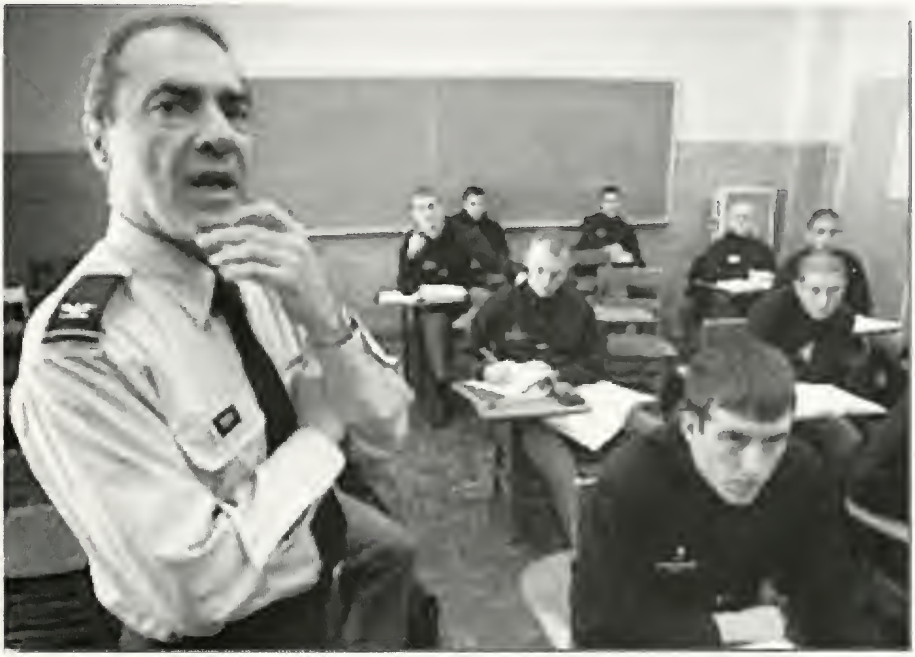
COL James [illegible] Park
Institute Chaplain



SGM John L. Neel
Sgt. Major to the Corps

2003 Academics

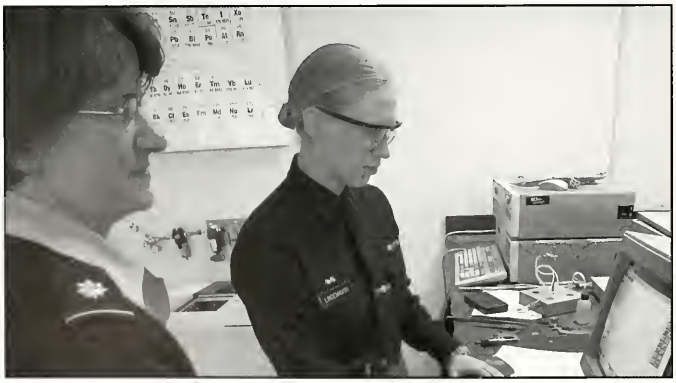
"Try not to have a good time ... This is supposed to be educational." (Charles Schultz)



Biology

Civil Engineering

Chemistry



Economics and Business

Electrical Engineering

English

History

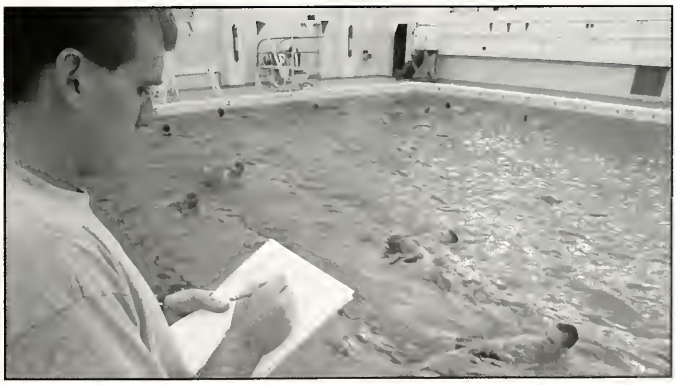
International Studies and Political Science

Mathematics

Mechanical Engineering

Modern Languages

Physical Education



Psychology

Physics

Air Force

Army

Marine Corps

Navy

In Memory Of

Col. Kurt W. Iversen '85, Director of Cadet Affairs

Director of Cadet Affairs, Col. Kurt Iversen, passed away on September 26, 2002, as a result of a brain aneurysm suffered three weeks earlier.

Iversen was a native of Parsipanny, N.J., where he was an Eagle Scout, wrestler, and track athlete in high school.

Iversen graduated from VMI in 1985 with a B.A. in history; during his first class year, he served as editor-in chief of The Cadet. He served on active duty in the U.S Navy in San Diego in 1985-86, and in the naval reserve until 1994. He was a recipient of the Navy Commendation Medal.

He was an instructor in history and psychology at Admiral Farragut Academy in Pine Beach, N.J. until he came to work for the Institute in 1994 as the executive assistant to the executive vice president of the VMI Alumni Association. After serving briefly as campaign manager for Reveille: A Call to Excel in 2000-01, he was named Director of Cadet Affairs in August 2001.

Iversen was committed to cadets and worked tirelessly to see that their experiences here were positive. He served as the Superintendent's representative to the VMI Honor Court after having served as a defense counsel in numerous Honor Court trials. Throughout his career at VMI he also assisted with the track and wrestling teams and The Cadet.

Col. Iversen is survived by his wife, Cynthia White Iversen; two sons, Kenneth W. Iversen II and Kurt W. Iversen Jr; his mother and father Dorothy Iversen and Kenneth W. Iversen '54; and two sisters, Mrs. Karen Ebbels and Mrs. Kristine Loucopoulos.

Col. Iversen often went above and beyond the call of duty. He was loved and respected by cadets and faculty alike, a friend to all. His reputation was that of a man who put the cadets first, himself second. Every facet of VMI felt the sting of the loss of Col. Iversen; he is sorely missed by the Corps of Cadets and the entire VMI family.

2003 Chain of Command

"An army of a thousand is easy to find, but, ah, how difficult to find a general."

Chinese Proverb

Regimental Highlights

The 2002 - 2003

Kyle Haire
Regimental Commander

Rollin Steele
Executive Officer

Regimental Staff

Chip Hancock
S-1 Captain

Eric Wilkerson
S-2 Captain

Michael Demayo
S-3 Captain

Thomas Baldwin
S-4 Captain

Aaron Campbell
S-5 Captain

Michael Lokale
S-6 Captain

Lara Tyler
S-7 Captain

Spencer Robbins
S-1 Lieutenant

Andrew Onello
S-3 Lieutenant

Brian Gardner
S-4 Lieutenant

Douglas Warner
S-5 Lieutenant

Benjamin Hassell
First Battalion SGM

Eric Hepfer
S-1 Sergeant

Anthony Peters
Second Battalion SGM

Regimental & Battalion Sergeants

Hrvoje Glasnovic
S-2 Sergeant

Benjamin Nehrke
S-3 Sergeant

Lincoln Clark
S-4 Sergeant

Matthew Sharpe
S-5 Sergeant

Dave Poldiak
S-6 Sergeant

Daniel Cragg
S-7 Sergeant

FIRST BATTALION

David Woody
Battalion Commander

Thomas Bliss
Executive Officer

Chris Gromadski
S-1 Lieutenant

William Gentry
S-2 Lieutenant

Peter Choi
S-3 Lieutenant

Richard Eytel
S-4 Lieutenant

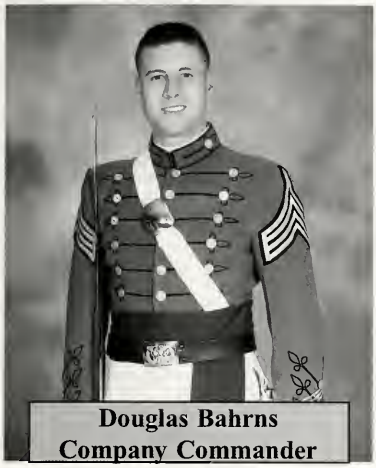
Philip Kerns
S-5 Lieutenant

David Tavenner
S-6 Lieutenant

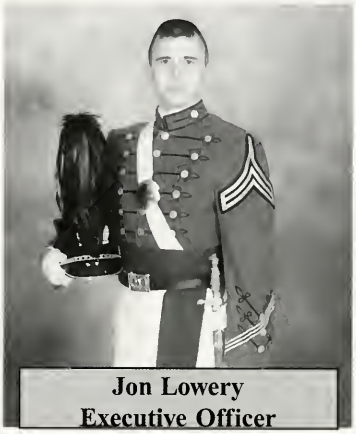
Devin O'Brien
S-7 Lieutenant

Alpha Company

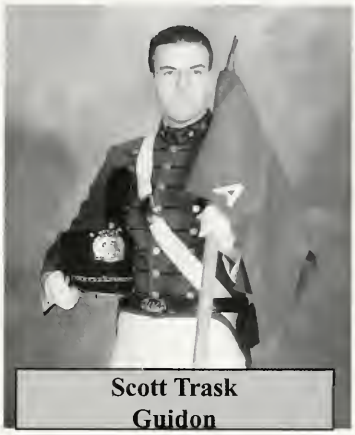
Hard Core Alpha First Class Privates



Douglas Bahrns
Company Commander



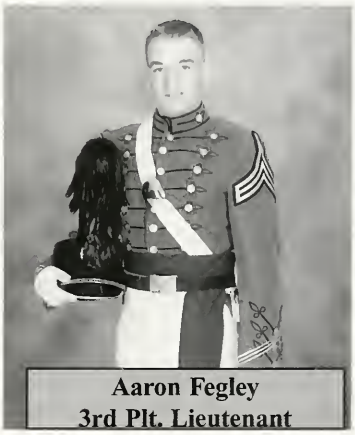
Jon Lowery
Executive Officer



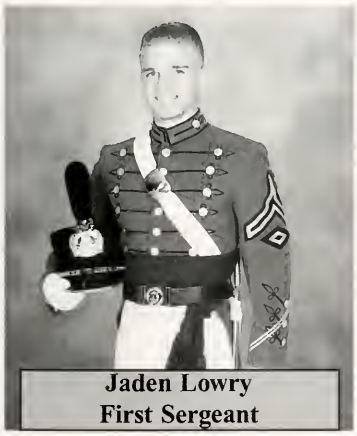
Scott Trask
Guidon

Brian Desautels
1st Plt. Lieutenant

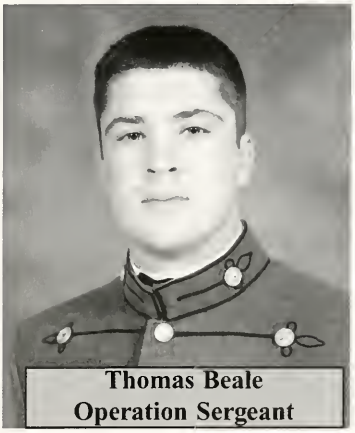
Marc Motyleski
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Aaron Fegley
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



Jaden Lowry
First Sergeant



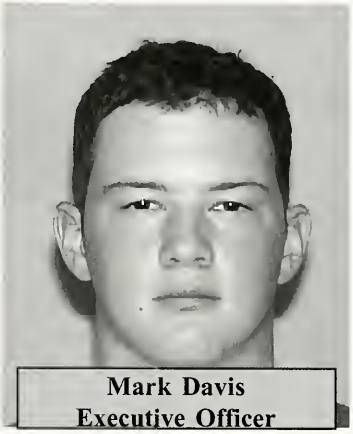
Thomas Beale
Operation Sergeant

Joseph Montagna
Master Sergeant

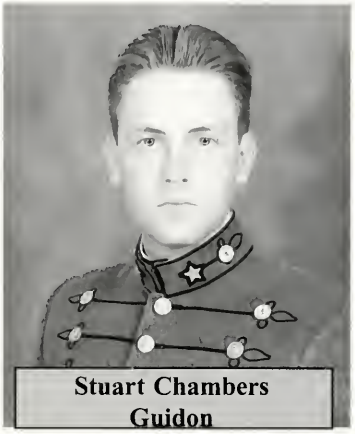
Bravo Company

Ball Bustin' Bravo
First Class Privates

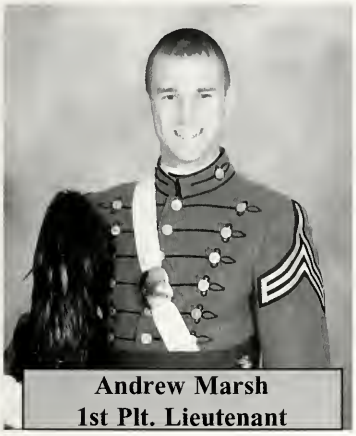
Nathan Smith
Company Commander



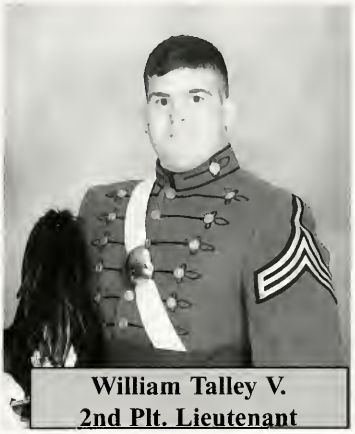
Mark Davis
Executive Officer



Stuart Chambers
Guidon



Andrew Marsh
1st Plt. Lieutenant



William Talley V.
2nd Plt. Lieutenant

Ronald Ingram
3rd Plt. Lieutenant

Stan Kielczewski
First Sergeant

Michael McLaughlin
Operation Sergeant

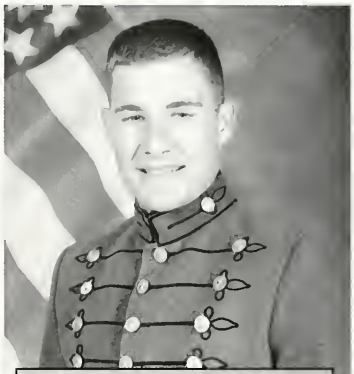
Raymond L'Heureux
Master Sergeant

Charlie Company

Cold Steel Charlie
First Class Privates

Josh Middleton
Company Commander

William Matkins
Executive Officer



Robert Cuthbertson
Guidon

Randall Harvey, Jr.
1st Plt. Lieutenant

Brandon Matthews
2nd Plt. Lieutenant

Donald Williams
3rd Plt. Lieutenant

Dave Bruton
First Sergeant

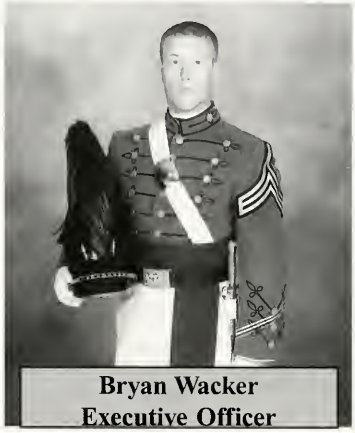
Jake Reisch
Operation Sergeant

Jarod Parker
Master Sergeant

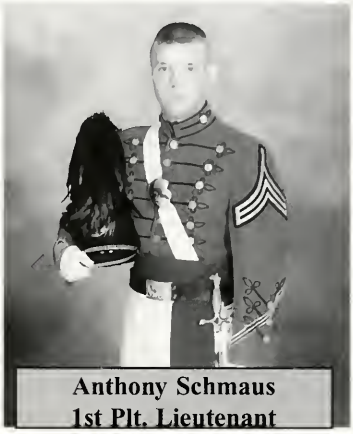
Delta Company

Mad Dog Delta First Class Privates

Dan McNair
Company Commander

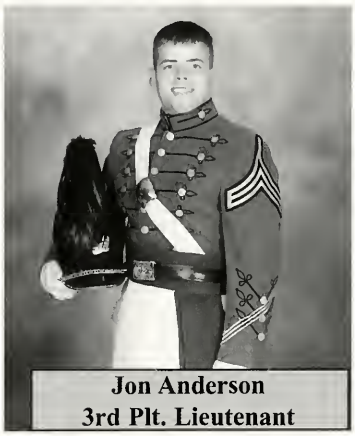


Bryan Wacker
Executive Officer

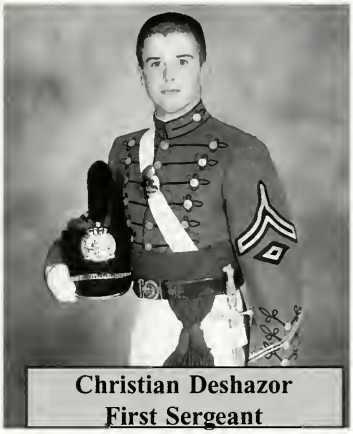


Anthony Schmaus
1st Plt. Lieutenant

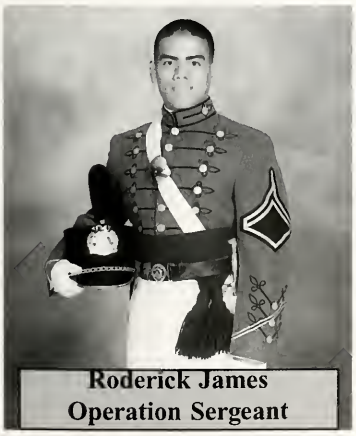
Alexander Rizzato
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



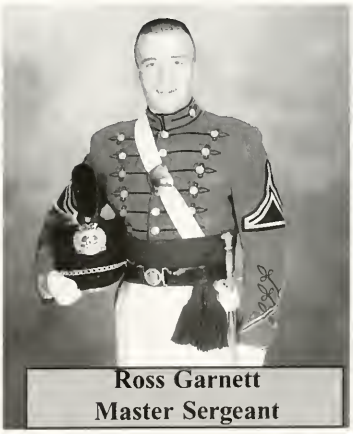
Jon Anderson
3rd Plt. Lieutenant



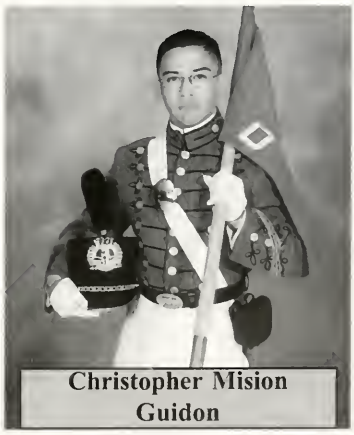
Christian Deshazor
First Sergeant



Roderick James
Operation Sergeant



Ross Garnett
Master Sergeant



Christopher Mision
Guidon

Regimental

Edward Chen
Regimental SGM

Color Guard

Bree Adams
Color Sergeant

James Bean
Color Sergeant

Adam Halstead
Color Sergeant

Alex Nicoloff
Color Sergeant

Chris Richman
Color Sergeant

Brandon Smith
Color Sergeant

SECOND BATTALION

Devin Flavin
Battalion Commander

Mike Newton
Executive Officer

Ray McKay III
S-1 Lieutenant

Peter Hugger
S-2 Lieutenant

Will Johnson
S-3 Lieutenant

Drew Murphy
S-4 Lieutenant

William Schaller
S-5 Lieutenant

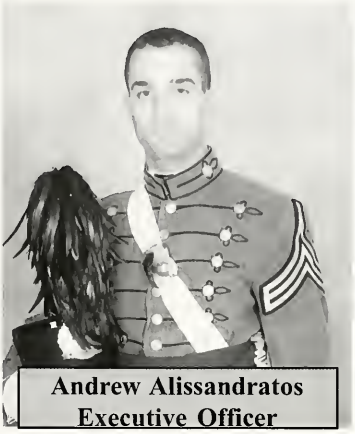
Derek Brown
S-6 Lieutenant

Erik Figueroa
S-7 Lieutenant

Echo Company

Tiger Echo
First Class Privates

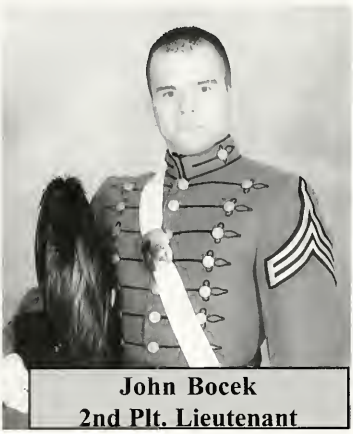
Matthew McQueen
Company Commander



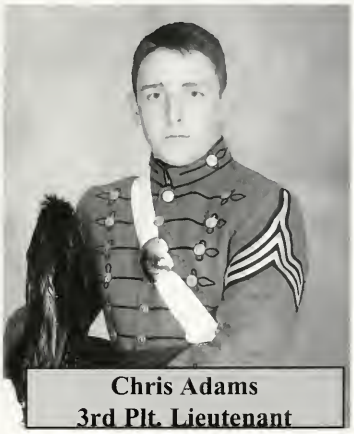
Andrew Alissandratos
Executive Officer

Mike Haag
Guideon

Saul Newsome
1st Plt. Lieutenant



John Bocek
2nd Plt. Lieutenant



Chris Adams
3rd Plt. Lieutenant

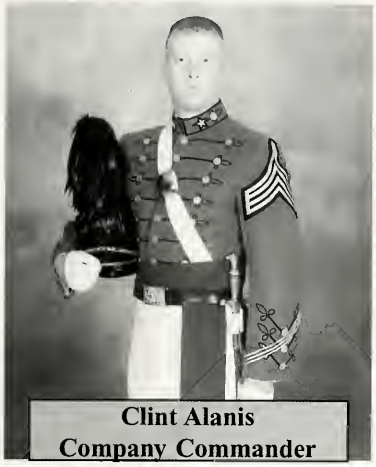
Daniel Ropp
First Sergeant

Brock Daniel
Operation Sergeant

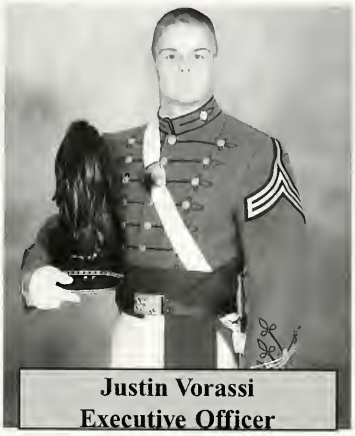
Josh Powers
Master Sergeant

Foxtrot Company

F-Troop First Class Privates

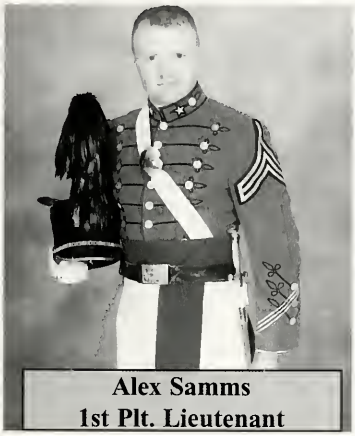


Clint Alanis
Company Commander

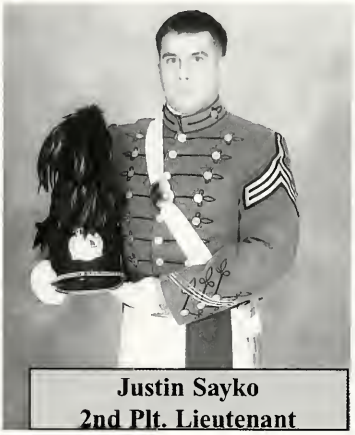


Justin Vorassi
Executive Officer

Brandon Turner
Guidon



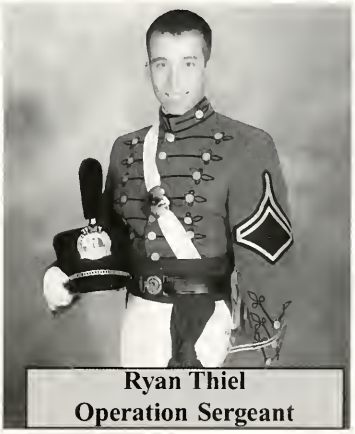
Alex Samms
1st Plt. Lieutenant



Justin Sayko
2nd Plt. Lieutenant

Jeffrey Dame
3rd Plt. Lieutenant

Harley Jennings
First Sergeant



Ryan Thiel
Operation Sergeant

Jeff Van Cleave
Master Sergeant

Golf Company

Blood & Guts Golf
First Class Privates

Galen Swank
Company Commander

Jared Hull
Executive Officer

Joe Darin
Guidon

Pat Lavoie
1st Plt. Lieutenant

James Kuhn
2nd Plt. Lieutenant

James Hitch
3rd Plt. Lieutenant

Jonathan Pax
First Sergeant

Kenneth Sydnor
Operation Sergeant

Ryan Koniak
Master Sergeant

Hotel Company

Hard Chargin' Hotel First Class Privates

Nicolette Weaver
Company Commander

Jason Lambert
Executive Officer

Kyle Pfeiffer
Guideon

Chantjaroen Chat
1st Plt. Lieutenant

Jeremy Ongley
2nd Plt. Lieutenant

Dave Narcum
3rd Plt. Lieutenant

Matthew York
First Sergeant

Chuck Karamon
Operation Sergeant

Alex Sullivan
Master Sergeant

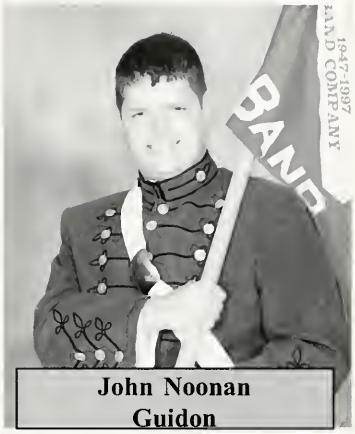
Band Company

Blood Thirsty Band Co.
First Class Privates

Jason Boatright
Drum Major

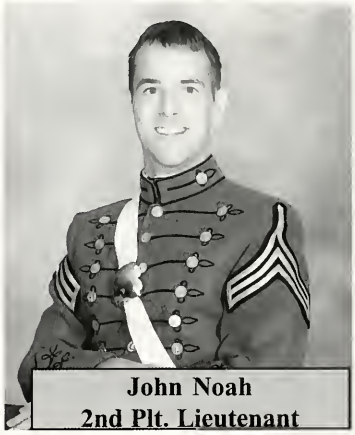
Colin McElroy
Company Commander

Greg Shpunder
Executive Officer



John Noonan
Guidon

Jared Swanson
1st Plt. Lieutenant



John Noah
2nd Plt. Lieutenant

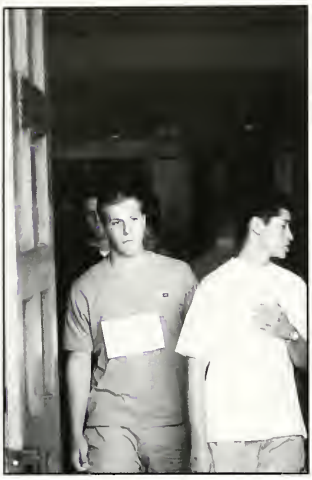
David Burdette
3rd Plt. Lieutenant

Justin Bierens
First Sergeant

Jillian Hafer
Operation Sergeant

Peter Kent
Master Sergeant

The Classes of the VMI Barracks



GOLA

Lieutenant General Josiah Bunting III '63

The Class of 2003 bids farewell to the Institute's 13th Superintendent, Lieutenant General Josiah Bunting III. Though we can relate only to four short years at VMI, we have heard stories from the past about superintendents and how they were almost invisible to the Corps due to overwhelming administrative responsibilities. The description we pass along about our Superintendent paints a much different picture.

Virtually every day that General Bunting was not on the road handling Institute business, he could be spotted almost everywhere on Post — whether it was at BRC formation, in the Mess Hall, working out in the weight room, talking to us in the Barracks, giving Coach McCombs or Coach Bellairs pointers at football or basketball practice, or stopping cadets in the PX to chat while munching on a doughnut or other treat.

Has there ever been a superintendent who participated in forced marches with the Rat Mass and ran with the Corps during annual Corps Runs, delighted in participating in pep rallies, paced the sidelines at every football game, home and away, encouraging each and every player, and was also a member of the teaching faculty during much of his tenure? We know that there is more to being a superintendent than being visible to the cadets, but General Bunting has made a lasting impression on our class. He displayed a genuine interest in the lives of cadets; and after all, shouldn't that be the job of a college president?

As has every class since 1839, we have also had our ups and downs with the Administration and General Bunting has borne his share of Corps criticism. However, one must look at the Virginia Military Institute today and ask: has it successfully met the challenges placed before it by society, the academic community, our alumni, and the Corps while maintaining the time-honored mission of producing educated and honorable men and women?

Over the past eight years, that question can be answered with a resounding yes. Thanks to General Bunting's leadership, VMI has been guided through numerous un-charted waters to emerge as the nation's premier military college with a reputation for academic excellence.

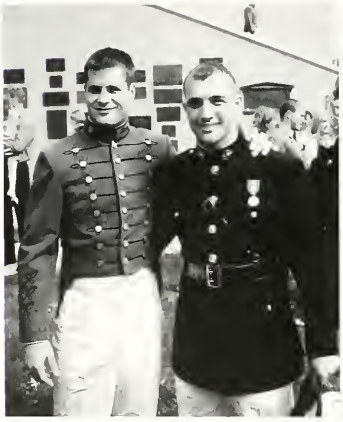
We thank him for his dedicated service and wish him and Mrs. Bunting Godspeed in their future endeavors.

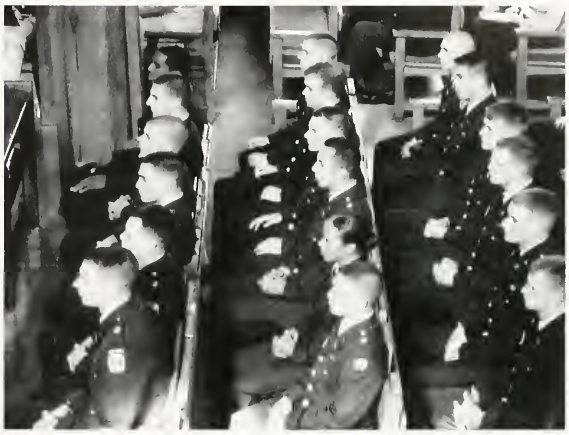
MISSION
VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

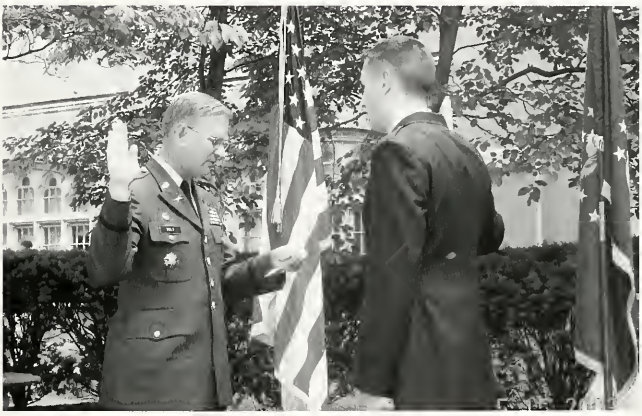
B.J.'s
OASIS

FIRSI CLASS

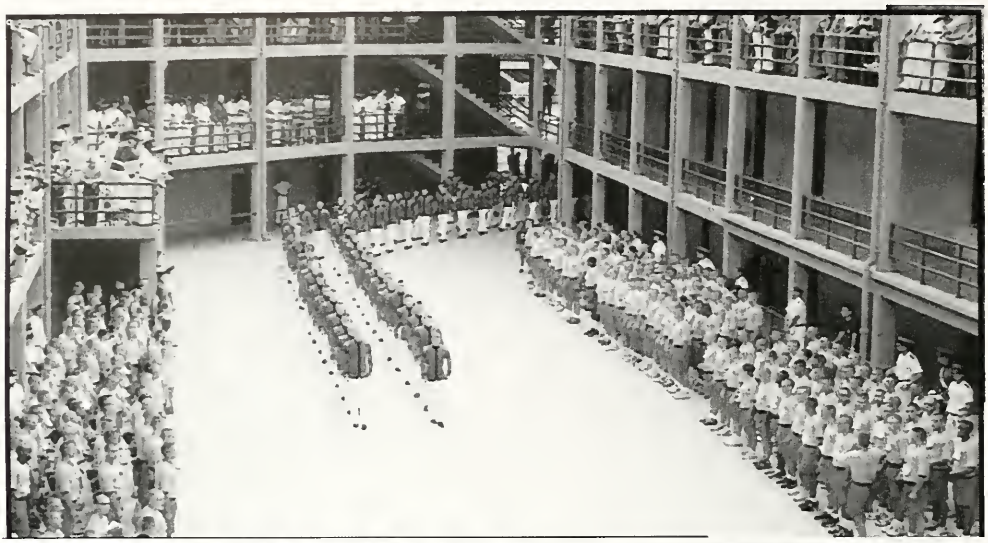
Commissioning

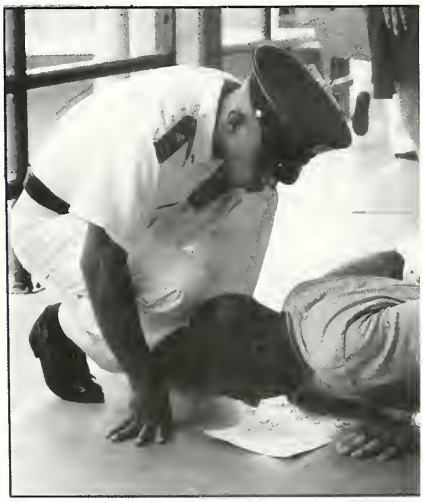






From August 18, 1999 we knew it would be hard....





And we knew it was our time...We would overcome the challenges together, in an effort to become the Class of 2003

Not alone, nor in small cliques....It would have to be the effort of our Mass

Finally, our day came....we became the class of 2003. All that was left for us to face, we never thought would come. But as a class, once again, we knew we would make it to our day in the spotlight. Brother Rats this is our day...

The Class of 2003 graduates
May 16, 2003

VIRGINIA MILITARY
INSTITUTE

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Operation Iraqi Freedom began on March 19, 2003. This list contains the names of those cadets who are known to have been in the Middle East (Iraq, Afghanistan, Qatar or Kuwait, or on board ships in the area) on or since that date, as well as those who were known to be in the area immediately preceding that date.

"The Institute Will Be Heard From Today"

The members of the Corps of Cadets listed are members of Reserve Units who have been activated. It is not known at the moment who among them is in the war zone.

2003 Donald Edgar Evans

2003 Gregory William Shpunder

2003 Jonathan Robert Elliott

2003 Sungmin Kim

2004 James Pierre Volosin

2004 Joseph Robert Rubin

2004 Ryan E. Koniak

2005 Aaron Earl Wallace

2005 Brian Benjamin Nailling

2005 Christopher Andrew Myers

2005 Gabriela Arraiz

2005 Justin Mark Juarez

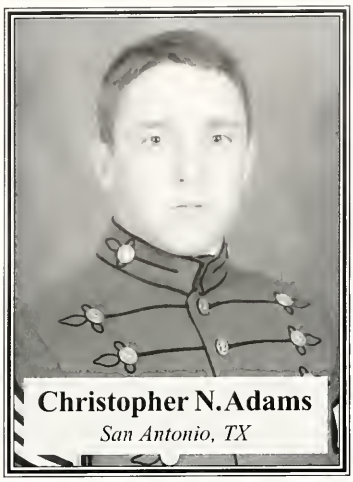
2005 Matthew Thomas Woyansky

2006 Adam Arthur Brownback

2006 Ernest Walter Simons IV

2006 John Kendall Shillingburg

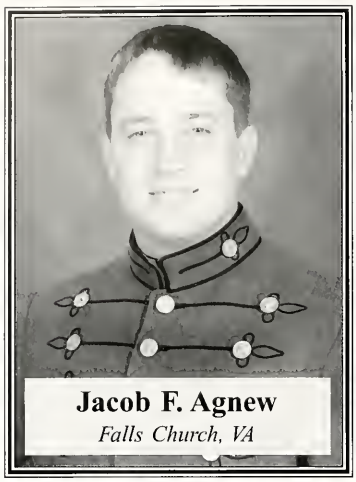
2006 Robert Timothy Adam Barkley



Christopher N. Adams
San Antonio, TX

History ~ Army
Gonzo, Adolf, Ragweed

It seems to me that most cadets take no notice of what a blessing VMI is. No doubt, the majority of the histories that will be written by my class will consist of the repeated expressions of how deep their hatred runs for this place. However, I can't follow this example because of the gifts VMI has given me. People have asked me, "How have you stayed at VMI for four years?" The answer is always a simple, "My brothers." VMI threw just about everything it had at me, and if not for the friends that I made here, I never would have been able to make it out. In four short years I have formed the closest friendships that I've ever had, or will ever have in my life. Through all the shortcomings, the trials, and the tears my brothers were there to provide me with the strength and conviction to work through it. Sammy, I still try to live my life like you. Mike, two of a kind brother. Spence, some ups and downs, but in the end you know that I'd do anything for you. Andy, it's been a long way since STP and we never looked back once. Matt, my Texas brother, need I say more. John, I thank God everyday that I met you. Nick, nothing but love. To the rats of C-31, keep the tradition. Geoff, couldn't have asked for a better rat. To everyone else, thanks for everything. You know who you are.

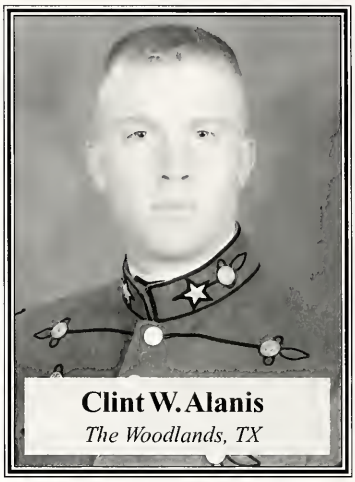


Jacob F. Agnew
Falls Church, VA

English ~ Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that

allows protesters to burn the flag.



Clint W. Alanis
The Woodlands, TX

International Studies ~ Marine Corps

It's been a long four years, but thank God that it's finally over and we can move on to bigger and better things. I know that I've made some mistakes along the way, but I can honestly say that I wouldn't do it any other way. I wouldn't give up the memories and stories that I have now for anything in the world. For all of those who were there with me, you know exactly what I mean. I want to thank everyone in F-Troop for helping me to become a better leader, and to understand what it means to have true camaraderie; Harley, she's in your hands now, take care of her. In the years to come, when I'm trying my hardest to avoid coming back to this place, I will miss the people the most and the way we made the best out of what we had. To the horsemen: You're like my brothers, and I'll never forget how many times you've been there for me; or how many times you've gotten me bloody, drunk, and in trouble. I'm pretty sure the world ain't ready for us yet…

"His pride is in his colors and his regiment, his training is hard and thorough and coldly realistic, to fit him for what he must face, and his obedience is to his orders. As a legionary, he held the gates of civilization for the classical world; ... he has been called United States Marine." - Leading Marines

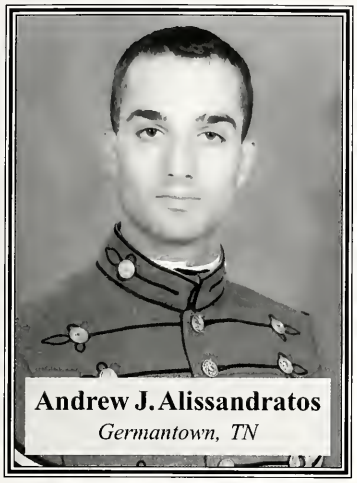
Revelations VI

Rat Challenge (Rat, 3d, 2d, 1st), Virginia Historical Society (2d, 1st), Civil War Round Table (2d, 1st), Rank (2d, 1st), Echo Co. Softball (3d, 2d, 1st)

Dyke Line
2000 - Rob Mason
2006 - Geoff Parker, Jeff Butwell

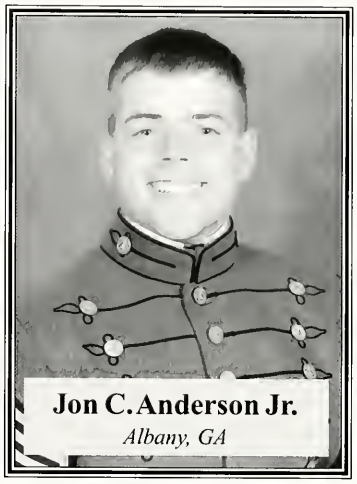
Dyke Line
2000 - Christian Arllen
2006 - Jeff Butwell, Geoff Parker

Dyke Line
2000 - Nathaniel Rhodes
2006 - Joshua Garrett



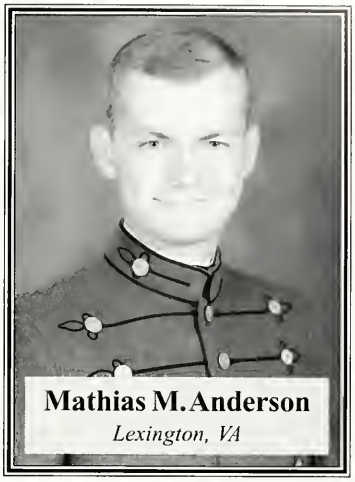
Andrew J. Alissandratos
Germantown, TN

History ~ Marine Corps



Jon C. Anderson Jr.
Albany, GA

History ~ Army



Mathias M. Anderson
Lexington, VA

Civil Engineering ~ Army

I remember when I first came to VMI my dykes would always talk about the crazy times they had here and how fast it had gone by. At the time it seemed impossible that 4 years here could fly by but it has. The last four years have been a combination of the best and worst times of my life however the good times have far outweighed the bad. All in all I've had a great time here thanks to the friends I've made. I just want to thank my roommates Mike Haag, Sam Newsome, Chris Adams, and Spence Robbins for keeping me from going out of my mind. I know we've had our ups and downs but I could never imagine going through this place without these guys. I also want to thank my parents George Alissandratos and Stephanie Walker, as well as my Aunts Theresa Schnepf, and Julia Alissandratos for financing this little venture known as "college." I definitely could not have made it this far without their support. I hope that during my time here I have been able to pass on the things I learned while at VMI to the cadets I had the job of training as rats. While I have witnessed both good and bad changes to this school I know that as long as there is a corps of cadets the true spirit of VMI will live on, and VMI will continue to produce the best undergraduates in the country. Rah Virginia Mil.

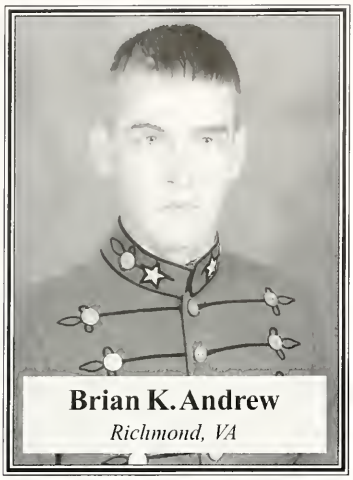
Thank you to ALL!!! My prayer is that I have donated faithfully to the spiritual legacy the VMI atmosphere enhances on us each. If "everyone dies, but not everyone truly lives," I believe that, "for to me to LIVE IS CHRIST and to die is gain " (Philippians 1:21) My Vice Presidency to the Class of 2003 was a duty I considered another platform for service and ministry; thank you for giving me the opportunity. Robert E. Lee said about DUTY: You can never do more; you should never do less.
VMI brotherhood to me: "Bear one another's burdens and thus fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2) Thank you to all those who bore my burdens, I just hope I returned the favor!
Mike and Justin: "I'm stuuumped," to tell you guys how much you mean to me! Specifically to Mike: "THERE!" Thank you for constantly being THERE for so many great memories; may it continue…Dave, Matt, and Ian: ETERNAL friends!
Bible study guys: Thanks for being faithful and pushing me closer to our Savior! Sam, we'll certainly meet back up in the future to praise His name! Drew, Seth, Wes, Donnie and fellow concourse guys: Family is the only word that aptly describes my thoughts about each of you! Brandon and Chip: My hat goes off to both of you! Lastly I want to say that nothing is as important as ETERNITY, yet few seek it before they are devoured by it. Every breath is your new choice!

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Chris Cornelli
2006 - Dan Ervin

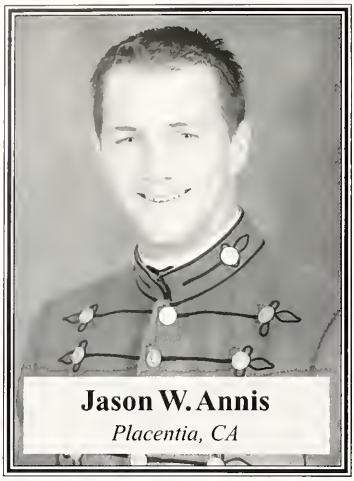
Dyke Line
2000 - Justin Cole
2006 - Phil Wilson

Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Haney
2006 -



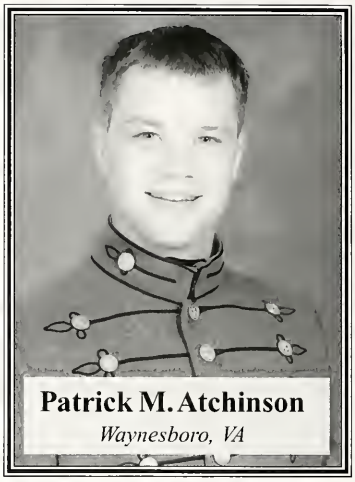
Brian K. Andrew
Richmond, VA

Civil Engineering ~ Army



Jason W. Annis
Placentia, CA

Economics and Business ~ Army



Patrick M. Atchinson
Waynesboro, VA

History ~ Army

The great liability of the engineer compared to men of other professions is that his works are out in the open where all can see them. His acts, step by step, are in hard substance. He cannot bury his mistakes in the grave like the doctors. He cannot argue them into thin air or blame the judge like lawyers. His cannot, like the architects, cover his failures with trees and vines. He cannot, like the politicians, screen his shortcomings by blaming his opponents and hope that people forget. The engineer simply cannot deny he did it. If his works do not work, he is damned.
On the other hand, unlike the doctor, his is not a life among the weak. Unlike the soldier, destruction is not his purpose. Unlike the lawyer, quarrels are not his daily bread. To the engineer falls the job of clothing the bare bones of science with life, comfort and hope. No doubt as the years go by people forget which engineer did it, even if they ever knew. Or some promoter who used other people's money. But the engineer himself looks back at the unending stream of goodness which flows from his successes, with satisfactions that few professions may know. And the verdict of his fellow professional is all the accolade he wants. -Herbert Hoover
Thanks for everything Dad and Shay.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

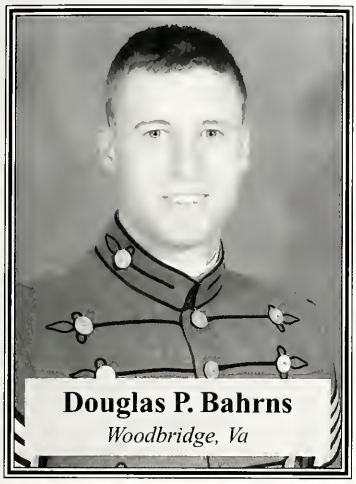
It's been a tough four years, but most of us made it without that many scratches. If it wasn't for my friends that I have made here, I probably would have not stayed. I got to thank my boys on the team; Jonny, Pat, Carr, D, TJ, and Dan for the most intoxicating portion of my life. Great memories….R.O.D I and II…the haymaker…Sebring…sandstorms…soccer fix….Jonny's attempted revolution….soccer trips….the upper in NYC…..THE VU…and those girls. To my boy, Garth…..i'll have bail money waiting anytime you need it. I have to thank my dyke, Matt, for showing me the ropes and kicking my ass everyday. And a message to my lil rat-ties…hang in there and I am sure one day that you will understand why you made the decision to come to VMI. You might want to go ahead and mark that 0, Smokey.

1st class Private, Strength and fitness, Dean's List, Academic Stars, Tau Beta Pi, ASCE Vice President, Pre-Law Society, Cadet Investment Group, Who's Who

Dyke Line
2000 - Marty Sillman
2006 - Garth Williams

Dyke Line
2000 - Eric East
2006 - KellySweppenhiser, Brandon Massenburg

Dyke Line
2000 - Matt McComas
2006 - Phil Lacey, Ryan Angus



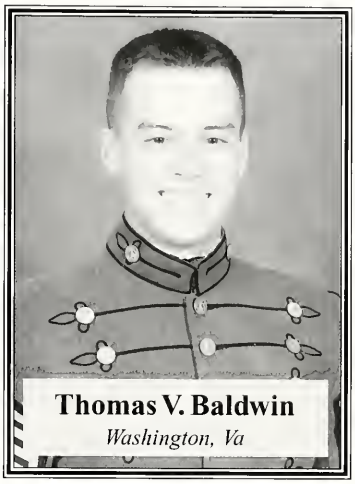
Douglas P. Bahrns
Woodbridge, Va

English ~ USMC

I am going to start off by saying that I love what VMI has given me. It has given me a sense of honor and integrity that I could not have gotten anywhere else. I have learned the true meaning of humility, which has helped me to have a very positive outlook on life. Also, through the tough times here I have come to understand who those people are that will selflessly stand by my side in times of trouble. I have always known that my parents were there for me, but until I matured here I did not realize the extent of their support, and for that I can never repay them, I love you both deeply. The friendships I have made here are that of brothers: Rollin, Clint, and Brandon- horsemen for life (Rev. VI). To all the Jamaica boys, I love ya. And Jeff I couldn't thank you more for all those crazy nights down at Radford; they kept me sane. I would not have made it to where I am today without my dyke, Justin thank you so much. Words of wisdom: stick with your goals, the best lead from the front, listen to your parents, stand by your friends, and believe in yourself. Learn from your mistakes and make for damn sure that you don't make them again. I hope that I have left my mark on the Institute. It has changed me for the better and has given me the confidence to attack the world on my own. Semper Fi, -Doug Bahrns

Positions: Honor Court 1st, 2nd, 7th corp., MSG, Alpha Company Commander; Bulldog 3rd, 2nd; Mountain Bike Club, Rock Climbing Club, Strength and Fitness, A-1 club.

Dyke Line
2000 - Justin Wood
2006 - Christopher Stolle

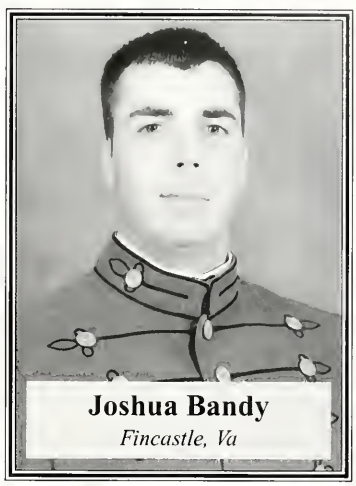


Thomas V. Baldwin
Washington, Va

History ~ Army

First and foremost, I must thank Mom and Dad. Mom, you have been the saint that kept my eyes bright with hope and love. Dad, you have been the pillar of strength in my life and you have been the wind beneath my wings. I thank you both so much for all the encouragement, sacrifices, and above all, your love. To the love of my life, Tammy, you have always been there for me ever since you entered my life five years ago. You have taken on so many important roles – as my girlfriend, as my best friend, as the healer of my soul, and soon to be as my wife. To my sister, my friend for life, my supporter in all I've strived for, I could not have asked for anything more from a sister. To my loving grandparents, you both have been the foundation for me to base my morals and beliefs on. You've been incredible with your love, your guidance, and your unsurpassable dedication. To my rats, Mike and Sam, I know in my heart that you both possess what it takes to be VMI men and I will wait the day of your graduation. To my roommates – Billy, Brian, Josh, and Kyle. Guys!!! Can you believe it?!?! I mean, wow, this is it! We have all endured the unique VMI experience and now we start our separate journeys in life, though we will always hold special places in each other's lives. I love you all like my brothers and you all will always be a part of my family and my life. Lastly, I wish to thank God.

Dyke Line
2000 - Jason Brown
2006 - Mike Floyd, Sam Wallace

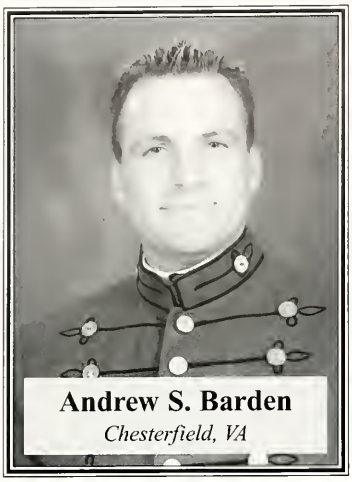


Joshua Bandy
Fincastle, Va

History ~ Army

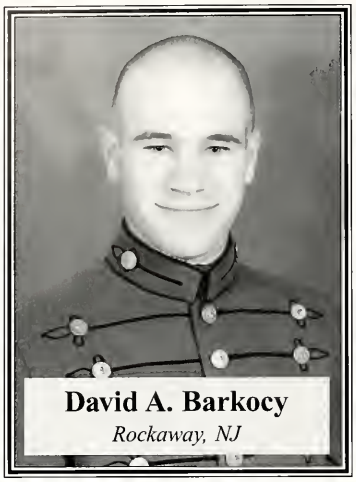
Well, just like most of my academic work, I've put off writing this thing long enough. Blame it all on my rack. The time that I have spent here has been one of the most interesting and trying times of my life, and I owe a lot of people for pulling me through. Mom and Dad and everyone else, I love you, and you have shown me many things in life, namely the way to becoming a man is through words, actions, and accomplishments. VMI has beaten into me that principle as well, and I guess I have no choice now but to comply. Shane, Greg, Larkin, Frank, Sam, and the rest of my '02 boys, I owe a lot to you. One day Goldcoast was the worst place to be as a rat, the next, I'm hanging in 311 with the quasi-dykes. I probably wouldn't have made it through here without ya'll. Derek, we had some good times third-class year, and well living with you and the other CE major wasn't that bad. Tommy, Billy, Brian, and Kyle, C-28 was the place to be. We had some good times in it and out of it. Hemine-he-ha! This school has changed forever during my cadetship, the long grey line is no more, yet there are still worthy men who come to this place. To my rats and those few others, nothing is ever so hard you can't finish it as long as you have your heart and mind set to do so. Put your faith in God, hold true to what this school was founded on, and you will never fail in what you do

Dyke Line
2000 - Jason Miller
2006 - "Vile" Kyle Lynch



Andrew S. Barden
Chesterfield, VA

Biology ~ Army



David A. Barkocy
Rockaway, NJ

Civil Engineering ~ Army

Brent Barth Jr.
Scottsdale, VA

English ~ Army

No more uniforms, no more saluting. Four years of that was enough for me. I never really liked it here, but I overcame. I guess that was the Marine in me. At least I can look back on my four years here and say I studied and worked hard, unlike those who would attend other colleges and actually had a life. Being here brought me four of the best friends I will ever have; JB, Hard, Phil, and Jason. One in particular, JB. You are like a brother to me. I will miss you the most plus you put up with my shit. To BT, JJ, and Wimmer - stay away from alcohol and just graduate - you only need a 2.0. BASECO - best company around. I'll miss you guys. Don't listen to Bobo. I thank God my family and all who helped me through VMI. Finally to the administration; thanks for being a pain in my ass. I'm gone.

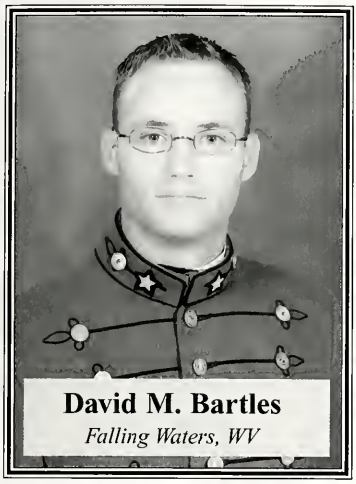
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Michael Goldman
2006 - Rich Wimmer, Braxton Good

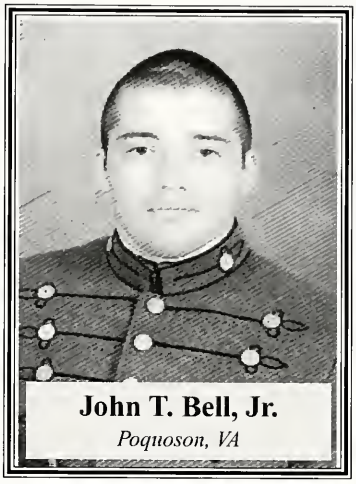
Dyke Line
2000 - Stephen Roman
2006 - Kevin Simpson

Dyke Line
2000 - Matthew Williams
2006 - Jason Major



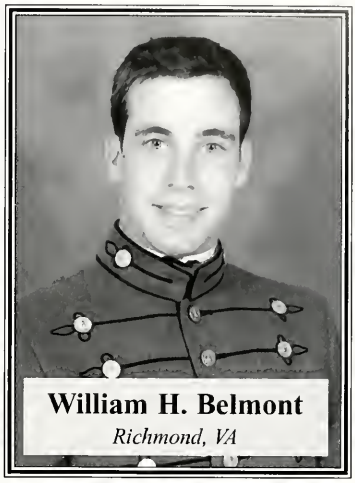
David M. Bartles
Falling Waters, WV

Mechanical Engineering ~ Navy



John T. Bell, Jr.
Poquoson, VA

Mechanical Engineering ~ Navy



William H. Belmont
Richmond, VA

Civil Engineering ~ Army

I am grateful to have met so many great men at VMI. I have admired and emulated many of you. And I would never have been able to make it through without your help. I am especially thankful to have gone through Nichols with the Class of 2003. That building will be much more hollow without you. I hope that my rats will be able to gain as much from VMI as I did. It is out there. You have to go and get it. Those going off to civilian lives will find success. I hope those going off to war can achieve their aspirations without hindrance as well.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Lee Nelson
2006 - Chris Baker, Chris Hassler

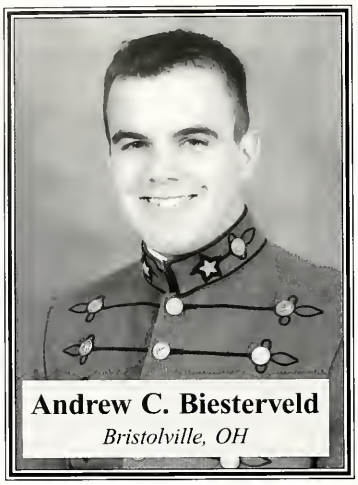
Dyke Line
2000 - Timothy Dowdy
2006 - Sean Mizzer

Dyke Line
2000 - Scott Kuebler
2006 - Jonathan Tibbs, Chris Price

Raymond G. Best
Cleveland, TN

International Studies ~ Army
G-unit, aka Ferrari, Worst, G-man

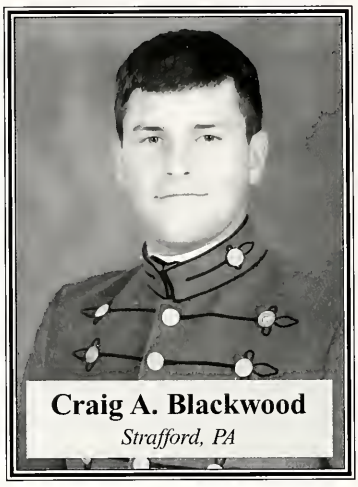
In the words of the Grateful Dead, "What a long strange trip its been…" -Honestly that is the only description that I have for my experiences at our beloved mother "I." Despite the miserable hardships that we have all experienced throughout our cadetship, I have grown to love the place. I would first like to thank my mother and father. Though I might not always show it, I love both of you and appreciate everything you have done for me. -Especially all the money mom! Pat, you are a true brother and I will never forget our friendship and the great times we shared together. Danny, if not for you I would have been kicked out long ago… (Same for Kyle who probably edited this before it was printed) Matt, all I have to say is "Keydets gone Wild!" Paul, thanks for not asking too many questions! Keg, I'll miss hearing the infamous "NO, Katy!" Blob, your head is HUGE! Ray, you successfully remained unanimous. Andy, DEFINITELY couldn't have done it without you! Rats of room 103, thanks for looking out for your dykes over the last year and good luck in the rest of your VMI experience! I'm off like a prom dress. -DUDES in heat!!!



Andrew C. Biesterveld
Bristolville, OH

Civil Engineering ~ Navy

VMI has definitely been an experience unlike any other. Some nights I'd be hanging out with my roommates and friends and think that there was no place else I'd rather be. Other nights I'd find myself in NEB at 0300 and think that no place on earth could compare to this hell. My rat roommate, Bill, and my other best friends and roommates, Blake, Brandon, and John, will be in my thoughts and prayers forever. I would do it all over again just for the honor of knowing you guys. To my rats, Chris, Joel, Yetti, Lil Willy, Fricke, I say stick it out guys. It's not always fun, but somehow it will end up being the best time of your life. To my family, Dad, Mom, Matt, Wendy, and Pam, thanks for all your love and support. If I'm half the man my Dad is and my Mom is proud of me, I'll be able to count my life as a success. To Jess, my future wife, my diploma should have your name on it too. You've been there for me through everything. To the Class of 2003... there is no one I would rather have spent four years of my life with. It's been an honor and a privilege. Good luck



Craig A. Blackwood
Strafford, PA

Business & Economics ~ Army
Keg

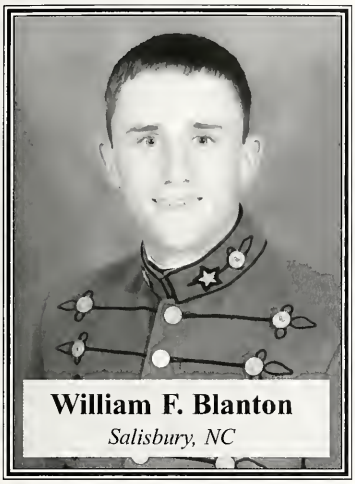
Seeing the pride in my Parents eyes when I would see them on weekends makes the past four years worth so much more than any diploma could mean. The times I've spent with my friends have been the best of my life, looking back always brings a smile to my face, even the bad times. First and foremost, to my Family: thank you for always being there, for backing me up in anything I have done and for the endless support. You guys are my life. To Neil, I wish you were still here, I remember the way you were and still try to be like you. To Lars: four years in the same room is a bit much, but worth it. Thank you for being there for me when I've needed you, you will be more successful than I think you realize. To Mark: you have a way of inspiring people to do their best, on and off the field. I want to thank you for being there also, for getting my lazy butt off the computer and into a book (even though it didn't always work). To Rollin: you're a born leader, I wish you the best in the Marines and anything you do later in life. To Col. Bush: Thank you for getting me moving when I was too lazy to work, without your help I would have been gone long ago. To anyone I forgot to mention: you guys are the reason I came back every August, and I wish you all the best in the years to come

Cpl, G. Sgt, Rat Challenge Cadre 3,2, Cadet Investment Group 2,1,Model Arab League, Pre-Law Society 2,1, Dean's List, Queen Helene Appreciation Society 3,2,1, Study Abroad Experiences: American University of Cairo, Egypt, Arabic

Dyke Line
2000 - Frank "Action" Jackson
2006 - Daniel Osborne, Robert

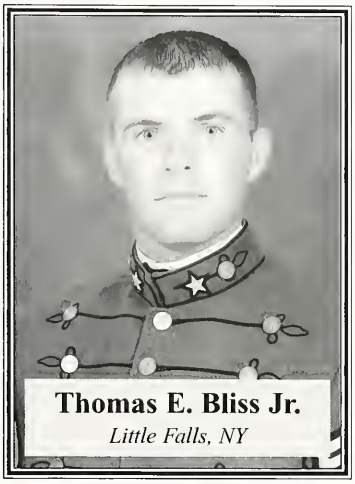
Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Lowrance
2006 - Joel Burger, Chris Foltz

Dyke Line
2000 - Matt Galliene
2006 - Joseph Tyler, Justin Woulfe



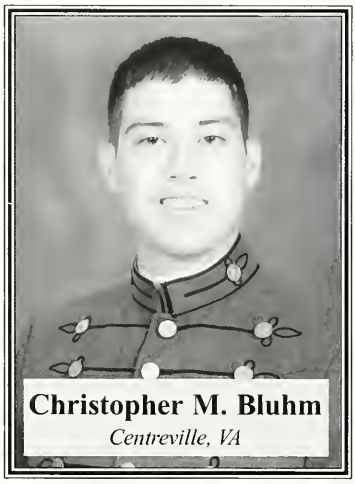
William F. Blanton
Salisbury, NC

International Studies ~ Navy



Thomas E. Bliss Jr.
Little Falls, NY

Business & Economics ~ Army
Tom



Christopher M. Bluhm
Centreville, VA

Mechanical Engineering ~ Army

As the eternity of the past four years finally comes to an end I am forced to look back and evaluate where I have been. VMI is at its very best a complex web of contradictions. It is a school about truth and honor yet riddled by hypocrisy. It is a school designed to produce leaders yet often yields dissemblers. It is a school, yet leaves you lacking an education. Despite these contradictions, I do appreciate VMI for what it has taught me. Integrity was something to feign until I came to VMI and duty only a byproduct of guilt. I now cherish these characteristics and appreciate others like tradition, discipline, and sacrifice. Overall, I have learned that this place is much more a character institution than anything academic and perhaps that is why it is so valuable. These important lessons aside, my time at VMI has been a monotony punctuated by penalties, parades, and Monday morning inspections. I have survived it thanks only to roommates, friends and family who provided light when things appeared too dark and were there for me throughout it all. Most of all, to those great teachers, who expanded my interests and always challenged me to learn more: my unending thanks. You have inspired me to learn everything I feel I haven't learned here.

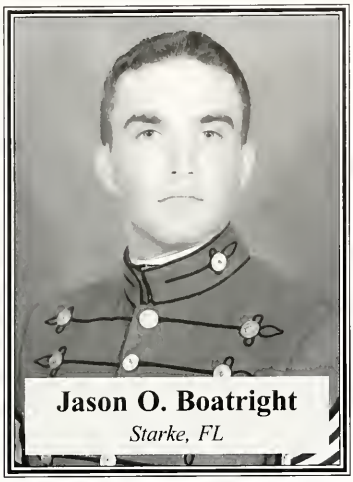
These days and wakeups are quickly coming to a close. Yesterday I was a scared rat and tomorrow I will be a mature adult. The bad times we have had will soon become overshadowed by all of the things we want to remember. To all of the guys from the "Ghetto", it's been great. We might not be the best company, but there is no other company I'd like to belong to. Chris and Brian: without you I would have been lost, keep your heads up and minds open. Good luck. Everyone at the "I," I hope our paths will someday converge again. To all of the LF people, you have helped me keep my sanity while I've been here. It has been fun. See you at Canal Days. I'd like to thank ALL of my parents too. Your support and encouragement have kept me going throughout my life. You've let me learn life's lessons on my own, but were always there when I needed guidance; thank you. Uncle Dan, without you this would not have been possible. I am greatly indebted to you. "VMI is a terrible place to be at; but it is a great place to be from."

Support, if it were not for the support of my family, being a VMI graduate would never have come to fruition. As hard as it is to say, honestly I am thankful for that support from my family that carried me through. I look back at what I thought VMI was, and I realize my childish impression couldn't have been more misconstrued. I thought honor, I thought discipline, and I thought courage (and that girls like a guy in uniform). In a few short months, along with my brother rats, I learned the true meaning of these ideas. Now that four years have passed, I have become aware that this school with decaying ideas, teaches cadets more than to blindly regurgitate what today have become hollow words, but to live the life of a VMI man who daily strives to be honorable, courageous and disciplined. This has been a rough four years, and without my classmates, fellow mechanical engineers, and especially the countless roommates I have acquired throughout the years, this would never have been possible.

Dyke Line
2000 - William Warthen
2006 - Jeffrey Thornes

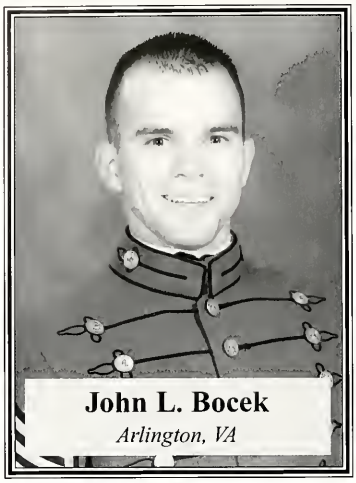
Dyke Line
2000 - Jeremy Clay
2006 - Chris Marr, Brian Lennon

Dyke Line
2000 - Scott Kuebler
2006 - Richard Tamillow



Jason O. Boatright
Starke, FL

Mechanical Engineering ~ Navy



John L. Bocek
Arlington, VA

Electrical Engineering ~ Army

Benjamin A. Booth
Portsmouth, VA

Business & Economics ~ Army

" Jason and I became roomates by accident 3rd class year, but in the three years that have passed we have become best friends. We both shared in the toil of engineering work and NROTC "mandatory fun". We kept each other sane when VMI gave the other one another "good deal". We have the same sense of humor, which seared almost everyone else. We spent so much time together that we communicated on a different level. When he left a note saying "Wake me up at night night" I knew exactly what he meant. Jason was always thinking of other people before himself. His food box was always filled and the Ramen, always stocked. Jason was also the keeper of all things cool in the room. He had the crucial DVD player and stereo, while the CD burner made many room CDs and "art films." Jason always had stories to tell about his home and I was lucky to finally visit his home and see that Florida women are as hot as he said. He also passed his love of Florida Gator football onto me. Jason and I shared many nights enjoying the liquor cabinet until the Admin brought his fun to a screeching halt. The A-1 was hard on Jason but he bounced back in his usual fashion. Now he got the pilot slot he always wanted. I wish him the best of luck at Pensicola, and let's hope memorizing Top Gun pays off! I know he is destined for great things, and I feel privileged to know him and to be called his best friend."

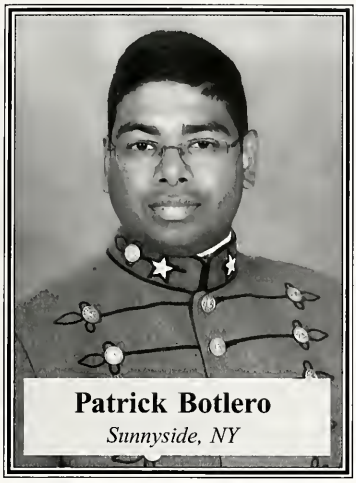
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Joseph Smith
2006 - Charles Fessler, James Angerman

Dyke Line
2000 - Colin Mahle
2006 - Tim Papenfuse

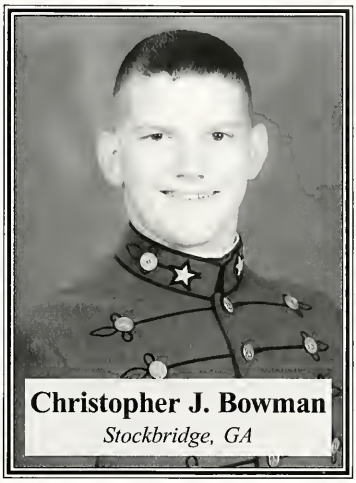
Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Haddock
2006 - Seth Brunner, Jon Cesafsky



Patrick Botlero
Sunnyside, NY

Business & Economics ~ Air Force

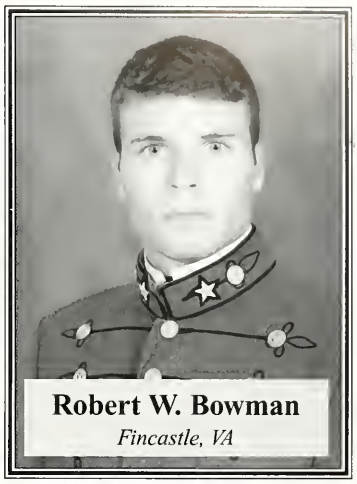
Looking back on my life I tell myself that I have come a long way from my village in Bangladesh. My experience at VMI will make more sense five to ten years from now. By then I should know exactly what I gained from attending VMI. It has certainly been a unique experience: one of brotherhood, academic excellence, and strengthening of the mind. That day when I got out of the taxi cab in front of Jackson Arch, I was so overwhelmed by the huge flags flying in the wind, cadets in white blouse, and the castle like barracks that I forgot to pay the taxi driver. It being my first time on post, I was in complete awe. At this moment I would like to thank my mom, Scholastic A. Botlero. You have had the biggest influence in shaping my personality. It's from you that I get my drive to succeed, my tenacity, and my ambition. I will always remember how hard you worked for us, how you managed to stay strong under the most strenuous circumstances, and how you fought and won against forces that tried to keep you down. For that you will always be my hero. I owe my success of making it through VMI to most importantly God and to several important people. They are W. Gregory Robertson '65, Colonel Bryan Bennett, Susan P. Levy, Salli Snyder, mom, sister, and Anna-Linn Persson. Thank you for your support. It will not be forgotten. I am still strong; I am still standing.



Christopher J. Bowman
Stockbridge, GA

International Studies ~ Air Force

What do I have to say about VMI? Well that is easy; VMI sucks, I hate it, and it is for this reason that I will never send money to this place. That being said, I do have to admit that I have learned a lot from this place and have many friends and experiences that I will never forget. Kenny, Rick, Jay, Jared, Steve, Mike, Bill (or William as Anna would say), Brandon, I hope to always stay friends with you all and if you ever need help just give me a call. Thanks for all the good times and things I'll never forget (that is, if I can remember them in the first place). Sean you were a great rat. Just remember the things I taught you and you'll go far in this place, but if you ever get rank I'm coming back to kick your ass. Finally, Kenny thanks for introducing Amanda and me. Amanda thank you for keeping me sane for the last year and a half. You do not know how much of a help you've been. I love you!



Robert W. Bowman
Fincastle, VA

Business & Economics ~ Army

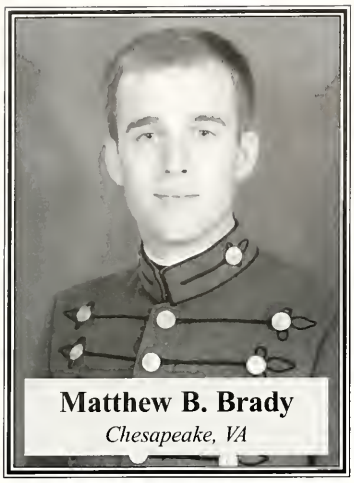
I would first like to thank my family, especially my parents, for making me what I am today. Without their love and support I would not have made it this far. I am forever indebted. My grandparents have also played a prominent role in my life and their influence will always be strong. It has been a long four years, but I cannot say that all the hard work has been in vain. I am grateful that I made the decision to come here although I am not sure that I could go through it all again. The friends that I have made along the way will be the greatest token that I will take from the institute. My boys from the rat wrestling team made freshman year almost bearable while my roommates Chip, Kennon, and TJ played a key role in surviving this final year. I don't know if any of us would have made it without our rats being there to pick up after us and to serve as constant sources of entertainment. The two years in the middle I endured only because I spent a semester each, studying abroad. As much as I complain about this place I am confident that I have received a first rate education. Professors like Colonel Bush are not found at other colleges and help make our experience unique. As we prepare to graduate and disperse into the real world I hope that one-day my classmates and I can reflect upon our experience and concede that we made the right decision in coming here.

VMI Calvary, Cadet Investment Group, Academic Stars, Intramural Football

Dyke Line
2000 - Benedict Inyama
2006 - Adam Good

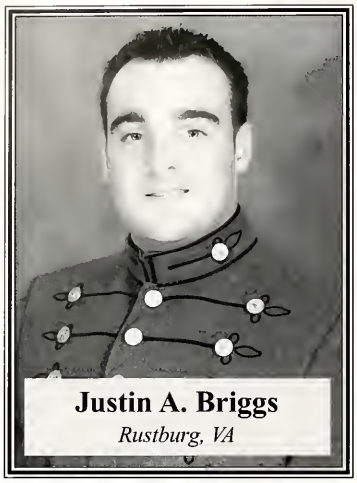
Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Sean Wolf

Dyke Line
2000 - Ian Harstock
2006 - Ian Camper



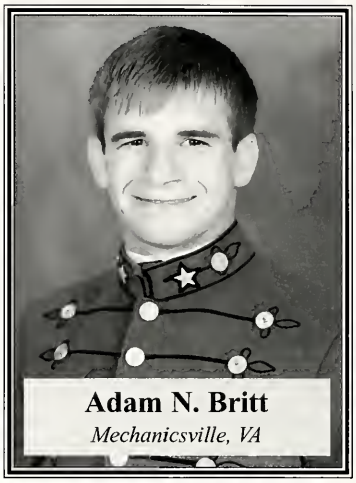
Matthew B. Brady
Chesapeake, VA

Business & Economics ~ Army



Justin A. Briggs
Rustburg, VA

Business & Economics ~ Army



Adam N. Britt
Mechanicsville, VA

Civil Engineering ~ Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

The past four years have been without a doubt the hardest of my life. God, my family, and the friends I made here were the number one reason I got through it. To Bob, Harp, Andy, Phil, and Jason: God couldn't have given me better friends. We've had some great times and some great fights. I feel gracious to have taken the field with you four guys for the past four years. I know you four will succeed in whatever lies ahead. Bob- you're the best roommate and friend I've ever had, and the Army is lucky to have an officer that cares as much as you do. Base Co.: Never give in and conform to everyone else's standards, continue to create your own. Ben, Matt, Matt, Gerard, and Anthony- the next three years will fly by, so make the most of them and let baseball be your escape from all the pressures that this place brings. Peace.

As my time here at VMI quickly draws closer to an end, I ask myself the same question I asked 3 1/2 years ago, "Why did I come to VMI." To this day, I still have just as hard of a time answering that question as I did when I first asked it. One day I hope I can look back at this place and say that it was all worth it. As of right now, I just can't pull myself to do such a thing. I would like to take this time to thank my roommates and all my friends in the sinks. Without you guys, I don't think I could have made it through this place. To the guys on the wrestling team, continue to work hard and great things will happen. To my family, thank you for all your support with school and wrestling. To Suzanne, thank you for always being there for me. You were always there by my side when times were good and when times got really bad (third class year). To all my classmates, good luck in your future endeavors. Thanks

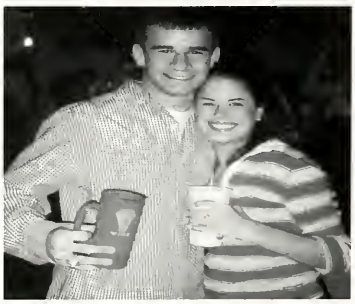
---

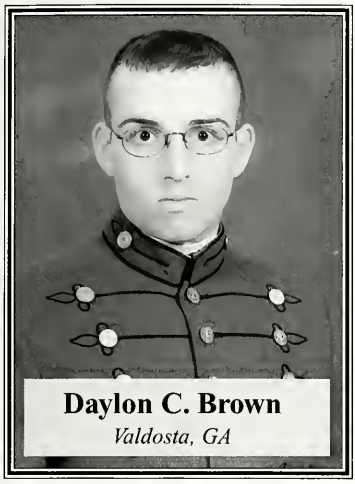
Wrestling (1999-2003), Tau Beta Pi (2002-2003)

Dyke Line
2000 - John Downs
2006 - Chris Brandriff, Nick Saccone

Dyke Line
2000 - Michael Goldman
2006 - Ben Morris, Matthew Hudgins

Dyke Line
2000 - Robert Chenault
2006 - David Wolf

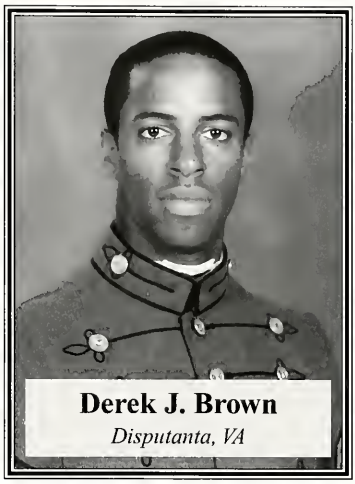




Daylon C. Brown
Valdosta, GA

Business & Economics ~ Marine Corps

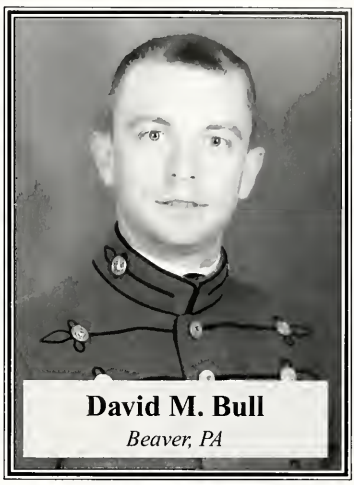
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



Derek J. Brown
Disputanta, VA

Business & Economics ~Army
The Milks

Some keydets have left remnants and indelible marks on the Institute. Some of these keydets like: Gen. George C. Marshall, Jonathan Daniels, and even Bill "The Bugler" have plaques attributing their names with the legacies they left their "Mother I". Some keydets leave indelible marks on the Institute without leaving a plaque for which to attribute thanks or praise or recognition, yet their legacy does not fail to show itself through the generations. Derek is one of those Keydets. He came with the dreams and ambitions that many matriculants have come with, but unlike many, he achieved those sought after goals. All the while, remaining true to himself and those around him. For everything that the Institute taught Derek about the virtues of honor, integrity, and true grit, he gave back to her with virtues of selflessness, hard work, and love for his fellow friend. Derek, if he had a plaque would not be able to hold all his nicknames (i.e. D, B, DJ, MilkDB, etc…) let alone all the blessings he left "The Mother I" and, especially, the Class of 2003.



David M. Bull
Beaver, PA

History ~ Army

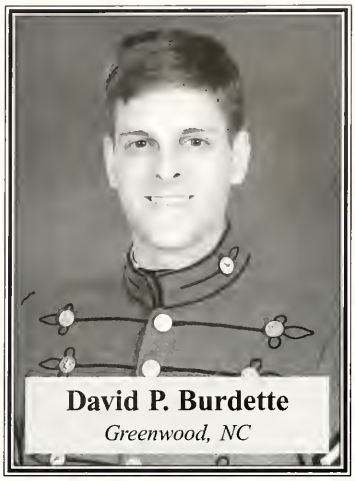
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

2nd Bn. S-6 Lt, Intramural basketball, RDC member,
AROTC Commission as 2Lt.

Dyke Line
2000 - James Nelson
2006 - Tom Zager

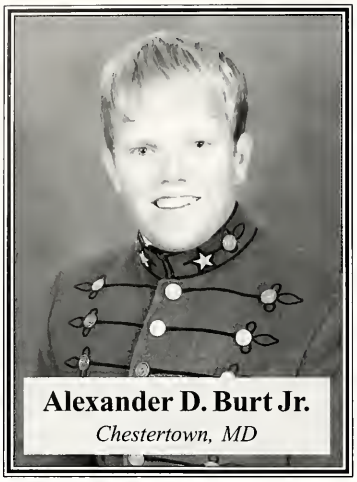
Dyke Line
2000 - Joseph Odak
2006 - Clint Edwards, Yevgeniy Skrortsov

Dyke Line
2000 - Christian Arllen
2006 -



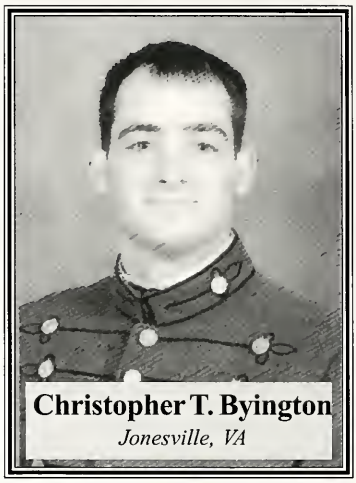
David P. Burdette
Greenwood, NC

Business & Economics ~ Air Force



Alexander D. Burt Jr.
Chestertown, MD

History ~ Army



Christopher T. Byington
Jonesville, VA

Civil Engineering ~ Army

Summing up the past four years of your life is no easy task—especially when you have spent them at VMI. If asked if I would do it over again, my answer would be a definite yes. Though some experiences were not pleasant, I love and respect the Institute and will always cherish the bonds I have with my Brother Rats. I am forever indebted to my Brother Rats, family and friends for all their support and guidance—my deepest and most profound thanks goes out to you. I will always value the positive experiences at VMI. From the Investment Group to the Pipe Band, the newspaper staff to Band Company lieutenant, I can honestly say that I have enjoyed my cadetship, with the greatest year being first class year. The freedoms of a first classman, the company of close friends, the most dedicated Rats in the mass (room 176 Rats), all culminate to make for the best year. In my view, the quality of education at VMI is unsurpassed. I admire all my professors and hold them in the highest regard. They have done more to influence my method of thinking than I could have ever imagined. The many laborious nights and Sunday afternoons studying in Scott Ship will pay dividends in my professional career. In closing, I would like to thank the cadets of the past, the cadets of the present, and of the future.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

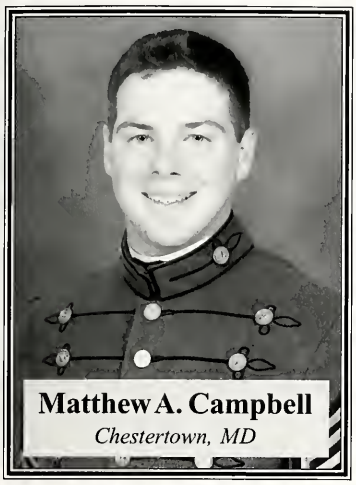
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

CIG: Executive Officer & Vice-President: 1,2,3; Sports Editor and Staff: 4,3,2; Sgt. 2; Lt. 1; Golf: 4, 3; Pipes and Drum Corps: 3, 2, 1
CCS: 2, 1; Deans Lists

Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Clark
2006 - Casey Jones, Samuel Long

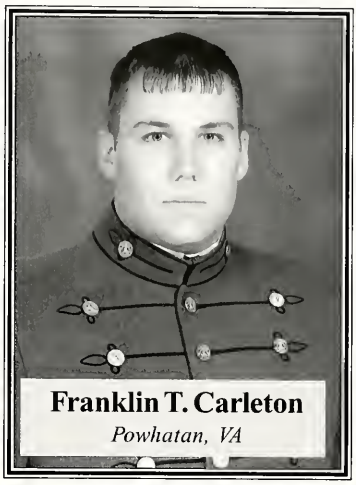
Dyke Line
2000 - Jeffrey Rhodes
2006 - Daniel Rogers

Dyke Line
2000 - Jonathan Palmer
2006 -



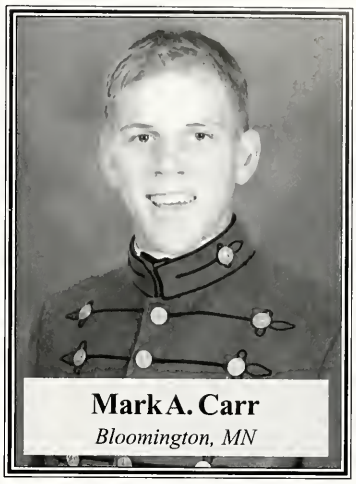
Matthew A. Campbell
Chestertown, MD

English ~ Army



Franklin T. Carleton
Powhatan, VA

Business & Economics ~ Army
Skip, Manny-D, Manny me, Graygoose



Mark A. Carr
Bloomington, MN

Psychology ~ Army

I would like to thank Blake, Robert, John, Chris, Kennon, TJ, Andy, and Chip. I wish the absolute best to each of you. I also thank my parents, Paula and Joe, who have always believed in me and in the Virginia Military Institute.
WHAT COUNSEL HAS THE HOODED MOON
The glory of friendship is not the outstretched hand, nor the kindly smile nor the joy of companionship; it is the spiritual inspiration that comes to one when he discovers that someone else believes in him and is willing to trust him.
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)
Whatever their future, at the dawn of their lives, men seek a noble vision of man's nature and of life's potential.
Ayn Rand (1905 – 1982)
I may hold no greater faith than that which I have in the virtue and the success of the VMI Class of 2003.

Close associates and friends often heard me saying: "I hate this place", and it was and is true. I have never been a big fan of the institute and sometimes I reget my decision, but it is alittle to late now. I have hated and still hate ever morning that I have awoken at VMI. The only good thing that could have come out of me attending this hole was the people and friends I've met along the way. Because the academic education isn't that great, but the life lessons that have been learned here will last for an eternity. I would like to thank all the people that listened to me compalain constantly and about every aspect of VMI. My Family and Nicole were there for me in the deepest, darkest days around this place. And how could I have survived 4 years of shenanigans without great friends and roomates like Matt,Willie,Chris,Craig,Walsh, Bob,Brent, Van Wie and the rest of the boys. It's been real and it's been fun but it ain't been real fun. IHTFP

Now that graduation is finally here I would like to say thanks. I would like to start by thanking God for allowing me this chance. Then I would like to thank my grandmothers, mother, father, brothers, and friends back home for their unconditional love and support. I would also like to thank my Brother Rats (BR's). My roommates are my best friends and I thank them for putting up with me over the last four years. My teammates and I have experienced a lot together. We have learned more than just soccer and were able to persevere through it all; ending on a win! Finally, to the class of 2003, what are we going to take away from this place? I am going to take away my own pride. My respect. Character. And most importantly the never ending loyalty of my BR's. What we share explains a secret pact, a trust, a friendship, something that only those who are apart of it could comprehend. I am very proud of everyone in the class of 2003. We vowed from the beginning to stick together, and stick together we have. If I could wish one thing upon the classes that follow us, it is to learn from our classes' mistakes, BUT more over, learn from our successes and our loyalty to one another. Learn the meaning of a TRUE "Brother Rat".

Ring Figure Chairman, C1G (Group B President), Pre-Law Society, Racquetball Club ACIC

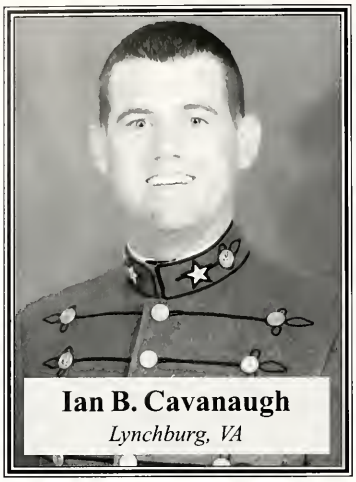
Dyke Line
2000 - Everett Jones
2006 - John Diehl, Dan Wilmoth

Dyke Line
2000 - Richard Baltimore
2006 - Zhon Burden, Marcus Barnes

Dyke Line
2000 - Benjamin Murray
2006 -

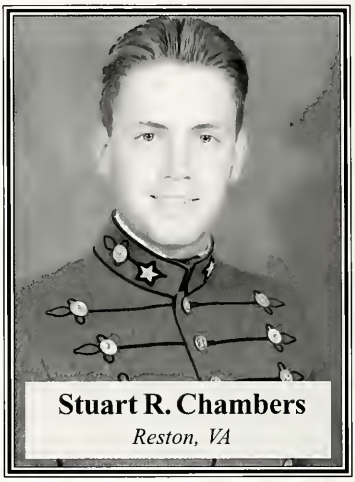
Michelle Carrillo
Pasadena, CA

Psychology~ Army



Ian B. Cavanaugh
Lynchburg, VA

Civil Engineering ~ Army



Stuart R. Chambers
Reston, VA

Electrical Engineering ~ Navy

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

I owe my accomplishments to those that have helped me. Four years at VMI have not been the most "joyful" years, but they have served me well. However, I could not have completed this journey if not for the help of others. I would like to thank my Mother (Momma) and Father (Daddiee) for their guidance. They have given me the courage to persist through life in times of difficulty. They have truly shown me what it is to work hard, and they have always been there when I have fallen. I would also like to thank my friends and roommates. You have all been very kind to me during these past few years. Needless to say, it is never boring when you are living with the CB-LED, a Thai ninja, and, of course, Dirty Trenta. You have all given me friendship that I hope will last a lifetime. Lastly, I would like to thank my fiancée, Lara. She has made all things tolerable. Without her support, guidance, and love I would have given up long ago.

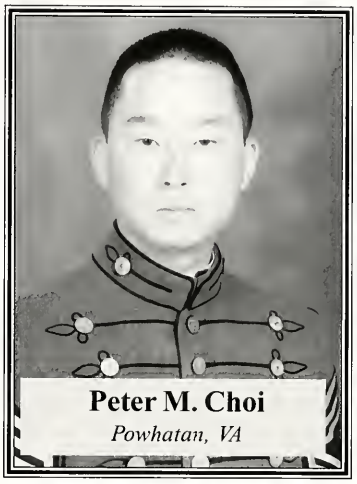
Dyke Line
2000 - Benjamin Murray
2006 - Alana Parks

Dyke Line
2000 - Lucas Hale
2006 - Robert Ballmeyer

Dyke Line
2000 - William Harrington
2006 - Colleen Logan

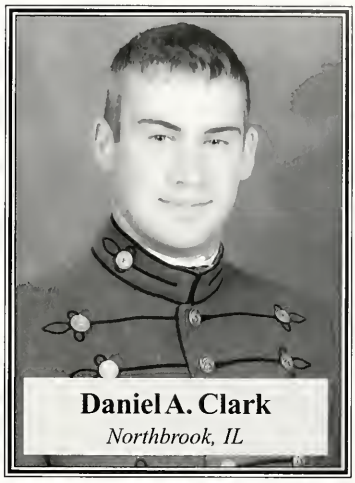
Chat Chantjaroen
Buena Vista, VA

Pyschology ~ Army



Peter M. Choi
Powhatan, VA

Electrical Engineering ~ Air Force



Daniel A. Clark
Northbrook, IL

Chemistry ~ Navy

Four years at VMI actually goes by pretty fast, even though we complained about how slow it seemed. Graduation is reminding me of when I first came here from Thailand. Back then, I had a very hard time understanding people because of the language and culture. I would like to thank the brother rats in our class, especially Hotel brother rats, who helped me a lot during the ratline. I would also like to thank my Dyke, uncle Dykes, and cadre who taught me all of the special traditions of VMI. I will never forget the friendships and honor, the most important things that I earned from this place.
PS I want to leave a message for my roommates. Jan! I hope you will make a general before I do, but I don't think you could because you will take ac days to go see Tana instead of going to work. Joe! Thanks for getting me the radio stations. Don't do too much pt because that will make you even skinnier. Brandon! Wake up and let's go to crystal, play a game, then take a nap. At the end, I hope you all will be successful in whatever you do.

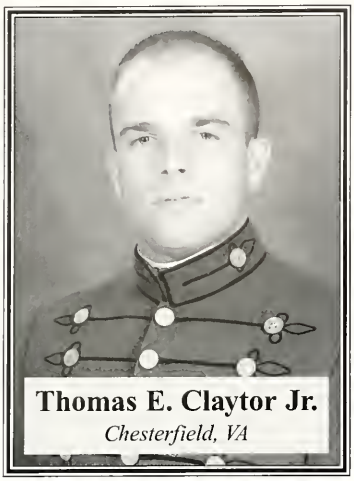
Over the past 4 years, under great depths of adversity, I've come to realize the true benefits of being apart of such a unique institution. As I walk across the stage in May, I will never forget all that have given me the strength and courage to make it this far. Best said by Alfred Lord Tennyson, "I am a part of all that I have met…", for surely, I will never forget you. To the original Delta rat pack (John Roche, Gonads, Aaron Campbell, Blake Traina, Jake Agnew, Willie Hale, Chris Kim)…always making my life miserable with your antics. The 2/C and 1/C roommates and EE crew, Stuboy the American Psycho, Dirty Trenta, Poomtang, Johnny Bocek, D.M., and Eli "Judas Bulbas"…made life bearable bringing fun back into the DSP lab….beating "Money Bags" Holt up. To the gentlemen of Alpha Co. (Brain Desaltynuts, Scotty, Aaron the Swede, Mark, B. Andrew)…Florida was just too great…even though I got injured other hour. To my dedicated rats: Adam "Ben Franklin" and John "The Pengaine"…keep the faith in yourselves and the system…you'll make it through…I hope to see you two pin on in 3 years. To my mother, father, and brother, for their support, love, criticism, loyalty, and advice…thank you…thank you all.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has giveo us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Ryan Newman
2006 - Ekkarach Chimpong

Dyke Line
2000 - Chwan-Shing Pan
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Eric Schnabel
2006 - Cornelius Murray

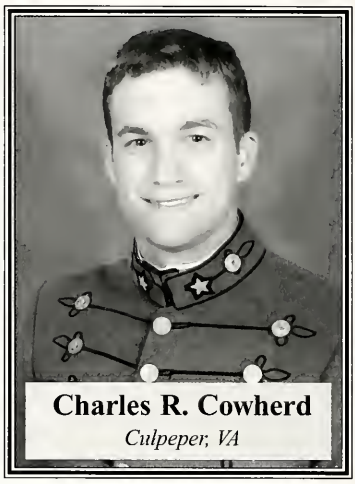


Thomas E. Claytor Jr.
Chesterfield, VA

Business & Economics ~ Army

Clifford C. Cook
Manassas, VA

Chemistry ~ Army



Charles R. Cowherd
Culpeper, VA

History ~ Army

It's been four long years here at the Institute and now that I am finally its time to look back and see how I got to this point. First and foremost, I have to thank my family for supporting me as I repeatedly insisted this was not the place for me my first year. Mom, Dad, and Lauren thank you. Another thank you goes out to a Miss Holly Clark, who listened to me complain about this place for hours on end for four years. Without the support from my family and friends it would have been infinitely harder to deal with this place. Thank you all. Enough with the thank yous, now it is time to talk about my experiences spent here at the "I." I played soccer here for three years, and met some of the best people I know. They have become great friends and good drinking buddies. Bud, my rat, and the other room rats brought a refreshed view of this place to the room. Bud, get your grades up – even though you think this place sucks its worth all the b.s. to graduate from here. Chip, thanks for the good times, enough was said between us that I don't need to mention it here – you never know who is in the room. The "I" has given me some interesting stories and great friends. I definitely won't miss the classes, or the formations, or the b.s. but I will miss the people. "Dude, thanks for hanging out, see you at the five year."

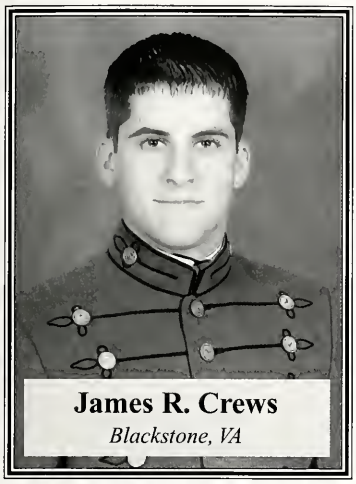
Rat: The ratline is only as hard as you make it. I did my best to be a good rat although sometimes coming up short. My dyke, Matt McKee is the most sensible honorable man I know. He is an officer in the US Army and he would give his life for our country in an instant and for that this man deserves more respect than I could ever give him. He will remain my friend till the day one of us dies. Third: The ratline is over and now it is time to concentrate on a more important goal, academics. I came out on top with this one finishing the year with ac. stars. Other than that life as a third generally sucks with nothing to look forward while being hated by all the classes. Second: I saw my mother, Connie Keomalu, and grandmother, Lois Cook, die this year. These events left ring figure in a distant third that year and me depressed for much of the year. Rest in peace Mom. Rest in peace Oma. First: Best year by far. My roommates: Shawn Herrick, Allen Maxey, and Will Johnson kept me sane and laughing most of the year. My rat, Heather "Mouse" Miras, good rat, good kid, good friend, and good all around person. We had our ups and downs but I hope we stay lifelong friends.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Michael McDaniel
2006 - Ray Webb, Chris Seta

Dyke Line
2000 - Matthew McKee
2006 - Heather Miras

Dyke Line
2000 - David Hoffman
2006 - Nathaniel Ewoldt



James R. Crews
Blackstone, VA

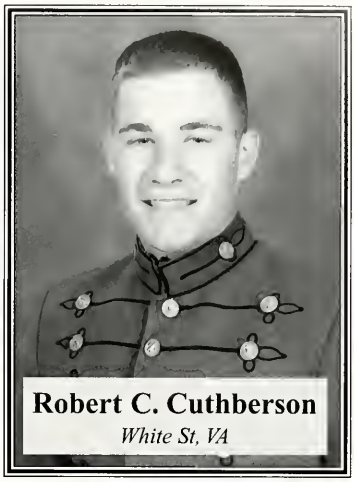
Psychology ~ Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Jarrod D. Cronin
Winthrop, MA

Business & Economics ~ Air Force

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



Robert C. Cuthberson
White St, VA

Psychology ~ Army

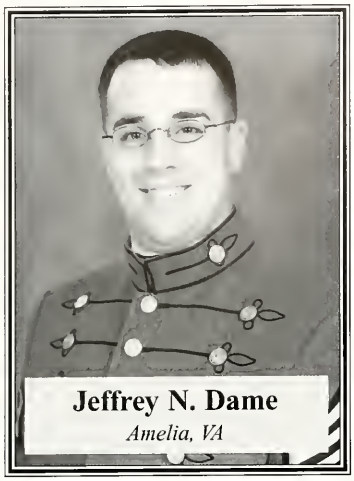
Well these definitely have not been the best four years of my life but it has been a good learning experience. I couldn't have done it if it wasn't for the support of my family and friends. Mom and Dad, you always had faith in me and supported me no matter what. I am so luck to have parents like you. To all of my friends: Justin, Jeremy, Will, Joe and everyone else, I couldn't have survived this place without you. Justin, you are the best friend and roommate anyone could ever have. No matter what you were always there for me when I needed you, I am going to miss not having you there in the future because I am sure there will be more tough times. Jeremy, your redneck antics and crazy harperisms kept us laughing when we needed it the most; I am really going to miss having you as a roommate too. Will, we started this together and I had no doubt we finish together (well maybe a little doubt after the Citadel van incident), but we finally did it! Joe, you are the best brother anyone could have. You may be a little rough around the edges at times but I am proud to call you my brother. You have the potential to do whatever you set your mind to. Stay strong, you are almost there. Matt, Anthony, Ben, and Gerard the end will be here before you know it so enjoy the time you spend with your friends and make the most of it. Matt, the road to commissioning is not always an easy one, keep your head high, stay positive, and always do the right thing and the rest will fall into place. "Live free or die" -New Hampshire State Mono

Dyke Line
2000 - William Ferguson
2006 - Donald Johnston

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Jason Brown
2006 - Matthew Jones

ARMY



Jeffrey N. Dame
Amelia, VA

History ~ Navy
Darth

Joseph C. Darin
Charlottesville, VA

English ~ Air Force

Elizabeth L. Davis
Port Republic, VA

History ~ Air Force

August 16th, 1999, as Caesar crossed the Rubicon, so it was when Dame crossed limits gates. From the very moment that Dame transversed that treacherous threshold, consistently for four years not a shoe was left unshined, not a shirt left untucked, or worse, not a book left out of place. The world of academia never much turned the head of the confident Dame. Unphased by the obstacles that had been laid in his way, Dame was supremely confident in his abilities of escape and evasion from certain peril. His abilities proved most useful when upholding the true Trooper spirit. Not a prank was pulled, not a scheme was planed, nor a tunnel unexplored without his constant vigilance. So it was with many eccentric roommates and experiences that the effects of Dame's good old Virginian manner were felt from Kenya to Indiana, and from Massachusetts to Texas. Then, once upon the field of honor that eternal flame of Dame's righteous and noble quest for military perfection flickered ever so slightly. It was Friday, a day never to be forgotten by the awestruck crowd; Dame performed the only successful attempt at the triple lutz, back-flip acrobatic saber stunt. This amazing feat was culminated with a perfect 10 point William Wallace type landing, such that the Institute had never seen before. Then there will always be the snowy JM Hall with its frosty windows, nary a light to see, nor a wreath or even a decorated Christmas tree.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

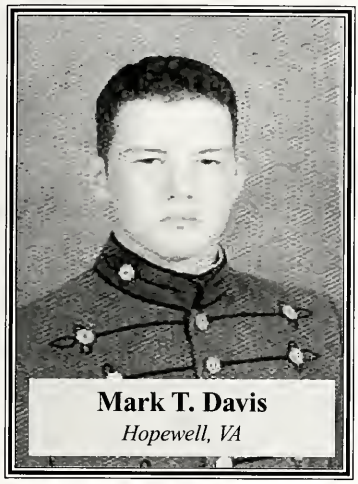
Well brother rats, we finally made it, .. living constantly by the motto "what doesn't kill you will only make you stronger." We are the epitome of this, thus the strongest class to come out of VMI's barracks in quite some time. It's not only us as a class though. For me… I never would have made it through this place without friends, especially you Mihaela. You're truly a one of a kind friend, and you will prosper in life because of it. I also want to thank my professors and especially God for blessing me with a successful and smooth 4 years. Lest I forget my family, .. Mom and Dad, and especially you Nina and the rest of you (you know who you are) gave me so much support and love of which I honestly do not know how I could possibly ever repay you. As for you little Robyn, always do your best and never let up kid. Drive on brother rats of 2003, and God Bless all of you who have supported me in all my endeavors here at the Institute.

Rat Challenge (Rat, 3d, 2d, 1st), Virginia Historical Society (2d, 1st), Civil War Round Table (2d, 1st), Rank (2d, 1st), Echo Co. Softball (3d, 2d, 1st)

Dyke Line
2000 - Jason Rasch
2006 - Russell Horrocks

Dyke Line
2000 - Edward Peason
2006 -

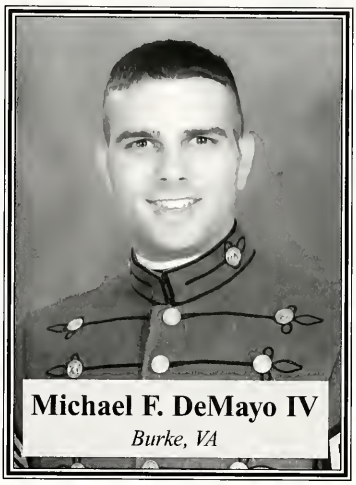
Dyke Line
2000 - William Lambert III
2006 -



Mark T. Davis
Hopewell, VA

History ~ Army
Condor, Captain, Stabbin

First and foremost I want to say thanks to my Mom and Dad for everything they have done for me. Not just for VMI, but in the whole road of my life. You have been there for everything, thick and thin and there is no way I can ever repay that. Billy and Pat, my boys back home, you guys provided me with inspiration about this place when I thought I had lost it all. Christy, what can I say, I love you with all my heart and I can't wait to get out of this place to get our lives started together. This is just the beginning for us. Phil (and John), I couldn't have asked for a better roommate(s). You've stuck it out with me the whole way. At times it's been rough on both of us. But we laughed through a lot. That's the only way to make it through here with a clear conscious. To all my friends here, the real friends, thank you for always having an ear to listen and a shoulder to lean on. Matt, it's been one of the greatest pleasures of my life to work with you and to be your friend. It's a lonely road and only those who have done what we have will truly understand. To the men on the Court, it has been an honor. You are the heart and soul of this place. Do what you feel is right, follow your heart, and Keep The Faith.

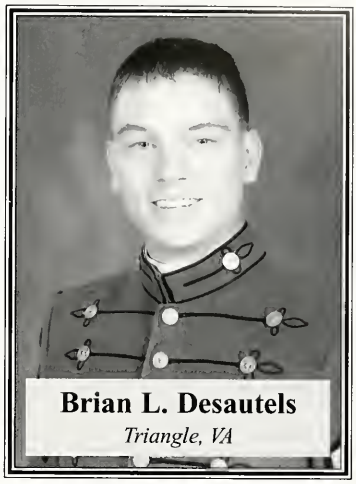


Michael F. DeMayo IV
Burke, VA

Business & Economics ~ Army

Thank you to ALL!!!My prayer is that I have donated faithfully to the spiritual legacy the VMI atmosphere enhances on us each. If "everyone dies, but not everyone truly lives," I believe that, "for to me to LIVE IS CHRIST and to die is gain." (Philippians 1:21) My Vice Presidency to the Class of 2003 was a duty I considered another platform for service and ministry; thank you for giving me the opportunity. Robert E. Lee said about DUTY: You can never do more; you should never do less.
VMI brotherhood to me: "Bear one another's burdens and thus fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2) Thank you to all those who bore my burdens, I just hope I returned the favor!
Mike and Justin: "I'm stuuumped," to tell you guys how much you mean to me! Specifically to Mike: "THERE!" Thank you for constantly being THERE for so many great memories; may it continue…Dave, Matt, and Ian: ETERNAL friends!
Bible study guys: Thanks for being faithful and pushing me closer to our Savior! Sam, we'll certainly meet back up in the future to praise His name! Drew, Seth, Wes, Donnie and fellow concourse guys: Family is the only word that aptly describes my thoughts about each of you! Brandon and Chip: My hat goes off to both of you! Lastly I want to say that nothing is as important as ETERNITY, yet few seek it before they are devoured by it.

Every breath is your new choice!



Brian L. Desautels
Triangle, VA

Mechanical Engineering ~ Army
Desaltez, Salty, Deeznutz

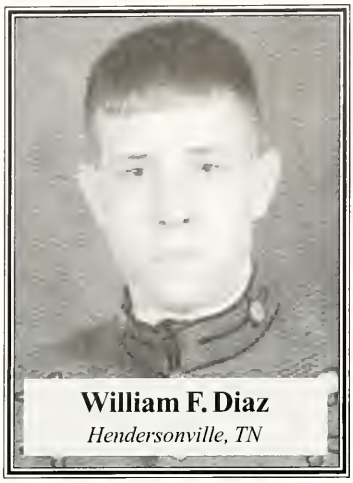
4th Class: 165lbs, rat roommates, Washington Arch ghosts, rm.120, Jennifer, two broken toes & lacrosse, first rat sentinel, rat challenge, Mike Amaan, rm.307, Dad going to Bosnia, 1st semester GPA = 1.9. 3rd Class: rm.345, struggling through ME, water balloon launcher, air soft guns, picking up Rich as roommate, A.company friends, Hunans. 2nd Class: rm.248, 225lbs, picked up Will as roommate, water balloon launcher, Ring Figure, Panama City, 3rd platoon GSgt and Sgt, real engineering classes with MANY stressful nights in Nichols, many trips to VT and JMU. 1st Class: rm.161, cadre w/Will, 1st platoon LT, Andrew not coming back, tailgates w/Chris' parents, rats in 161, alternate list for pilot, Courtney, many trips to Hollins, Dad going to Bosnia, Poppop, nights downtown with the guys, many trips in the Honda, Civil Engineer for USAF, being snowed in Wytheville and driving home in a snowstorm, Ft.Lauderdale & Miami w/guys, XO, Tyndall AFB assignment, CEC. These past 4 years have molded me into someone whom I can be proud of. Without the support from all my friends and family I could not have made it to where I am today. I will still pursue the dream of being a fighter pilot. To all my friends from VMI; thanks for everything.

Civil air patrol, cadet wing, academic mentor, cadre

Dyke Line
2000 - Paul DeRose
2006 - Jim Papa

Dyke Line
2000 -Gregory Fedor
2006 - Charles Lindsey Jr.

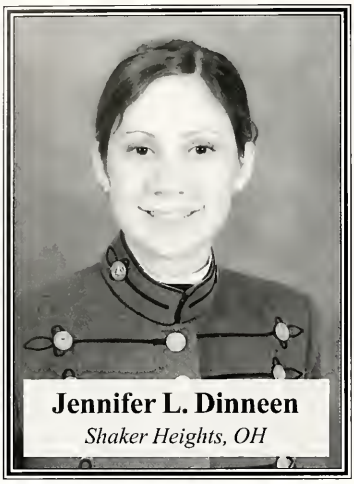
Dyke Line
2000 - Michael Meyer
2006 - John Fox



William F. Diaz
Hendersonville, TN

English - Army

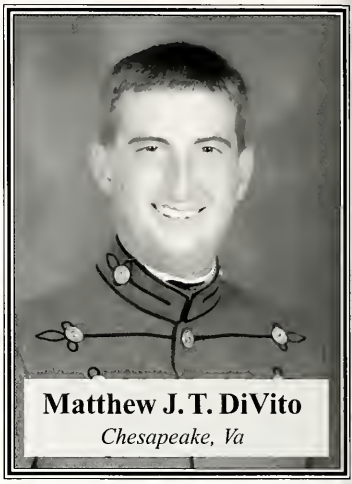
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



Jennifer L. Dinneen
Shaker Heights, OH

Electrical Engineering - Army
DM

When I first came to VMI, I expected that VMI would change me, but never to the extent that it did. The most notable change was the level of maturity I entered with compared to the level of maturity I am leaving with. Each obstacle and challenge, no matter how good or how bad, contributed to these changes. Graduating with an Electrical Engineering degree was by far the greatest challenge I dealt with. There were many discouraging times when I did not think I would graduate. But with the help of fellow EE's, which I will be forever indebted, I was able to conquer the program. Thank you Stu, Peter, Justin, Chris, Poom, and of course my perma-lab partner John. My roommates played an important role in keeping me sane and contributed to a number of late nights singing karaoke. Each has a quality that I admire and strive to possess. Lara laughs at anything, which makes her light-hearted. Nichole is sensible; she has a high degree of common sense, something I am not sure I will ever have. Both roommates were able to flip a bad mood into a good mood; they made me laugh so hard that my stomach hurt. To Vicki and Erica, my mess hall Mecca buddies, thanks for all of your support and the fun times. Katrina, you were a great rat and will do very well at VMI. Shane, thanks for listening to all of my problems and loving me as much as you doe. I would like to thank my parents and brother for all of their love and support.



Matthew J. T. DiVito
Chesapeake, Va

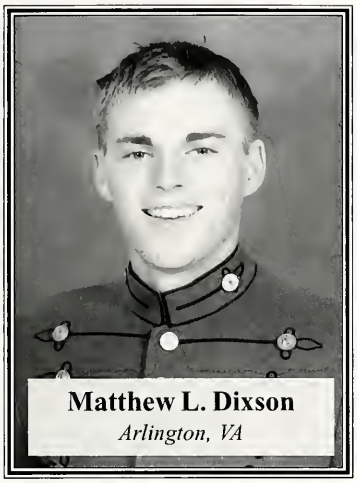
Political S cience - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - John Downs
2006 - Raymond M. Hill

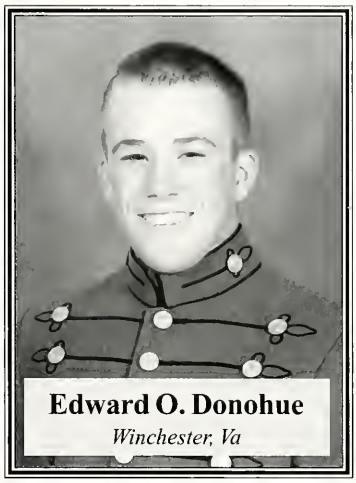
Dyke Line
2000 - Matt Morelewski
2006 - Katrina Powell

Dyke Line
2000 - Shaun Devane
2006 -



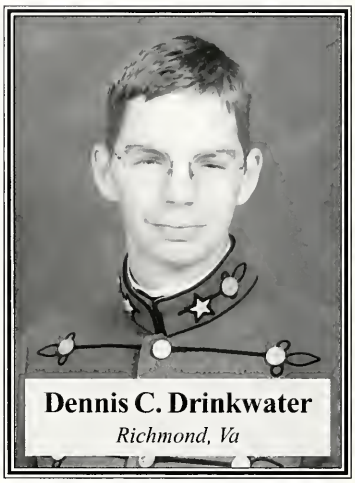
Matthew L. Dixson
Arlington, VA

International Studies - Army



Edward O. Donohue
Winchester, Va

Civil Engineering - Marine Corps
Edzo



Dennis C. Drinkwater
Richmond, Va

Mechanical Engineering - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

To the end of an era filled with stupidity, insanity and sheer mayhem. Thanks to God for keeping me alive through it all. My parents for putting up with all of it, my brother and sister for being around it and my family for standing by me. For Willa and Lawrence.
To all those kids I ever drank a beer with, took a shot or just flat out got stupid with, Cheers. To Steve couldn't have made it without you. Chaz, Tom, and King well enough said...thanks for all the humor. To Nick, Dale, and Storey good times were had. To all those crazy nights filled with off the wall Taiwanese kids, people with concussions, or jumpin off Jamaican roofs tops. To ferry rides and Bucs Games with Tambo, Sheets/Giles, and King.

What? Over? Did you say "over"? Nothing is over until we decide it is! Was it over when the Germans bombed Pearl Harbor? Hell no!
Germans? Forget it, he's rolling.
And it ain't over now. 'Cause when the going gets tough . . . the tough get going. Who's with me? Let's Go! Come on!
AAAAEEEEEGGGHHHH

For the past four years whenever I would tell someone I attend VMI the very next word would invariably be "Why?". In the beginning I couldn't really give that best of answers. I soon realized VMI has been one of the greatest blessings in my life. No not because of BRCs, parades, or inspections, but rather the friendships I have made. Whether the friendship consists of a conversation every now and then or countless nights in NEB or Salernos I appreciate and love all of you the same. Best wishes in all of your future endeavors. I am positive you will lead successful lives and be a blessing to those around you. Thank you all so much. To the 157 rats, for the most part you guys kick ass. Continue to work hard and persevere and VMI will soon mean as much to you as it does to me. Lastly, I would like to thank the best parents and sister in the world. I can't even put into words how much I love you. Thank you so much for everything you've done and everything you are. God certainly blessed me with three people whose love and kindness I do not deserve. I honestly can't believe how fortunate I have been to have you all (brother rats, rats, family) in my life. Nor do I wish to think of what my life would be like without you. Thanks again. God bless.

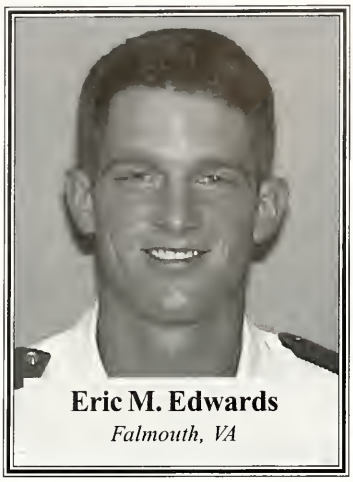
ROTC USMC

NEB late night crew – 4,3,2,1
Powerlifting Club – 1

Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Cornelli
2006 - Anthony Cavalero

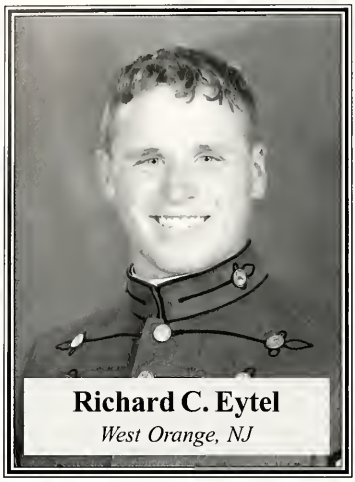
Dyke Line
2000 -Joseph Gorski
2006 - Peter Wilcox

Dyke Line
2000 - David Whetstone
2006 - Daniel Petronzio, Chris Authier



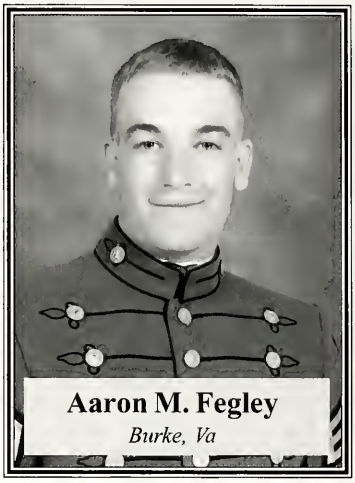
Eric M. Edwards
Falmouth, VA

Electrical Engineering - Army



Richard C. Eytel
West Orange, NJ

Electrical Engineering - Navy



Aaron M. Fegley
Burke, Va

International Studies - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

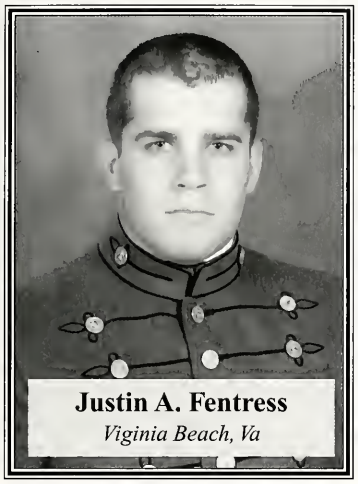
First and foremost, I want to thank my family for sticking by me throughout my life, no matter what mistakes I may have made, or how much I disappointed them. I know that it was rough for you, watching me going on my roller coaster ride of a cadetship. To my sister Caitlin, I wish you the best in college, and hope that you can learn from some of the mistakes that I made. Love ya kid. To my mother, thank you for everything. I know I may have a hard time showing it, but I love you more than you will ever know. And to my best firend, my Dad. Dad, if I become half the man that you are, I think I'll have done all right. Love you Dad.
I'd like to thank families who opened their homes to me over the years, especially the Adams, Belmonts, and Hillsmans. Also, I'd like to thank the teachers who gave me a few important lessons on the way. Special thanks go out to Col. Bush for believing in me.
Colin, I've made a few bad choices here that weren't worth the consequences. I hope you learn from me, and become the man that you know you can be.
If there is one thing that VMI has given me, its the best friends a guy can ever have. Josh, Will, Dan, Ace, Dave, Brian, Phil, Matt, Nick, and Mikie, we've had some great times together. There are no words to express how much you all mean to me. Thanks for everything, and keep the faith

I would like to start off by saying thank you Mom and Dad. Without your support I probably would not be in this position right now, ready to graduate, writing my history of four years at VMI. You have supported all that I have ever done, and I sincerely appreciate that. Thank you Scott, Brian, and Will for putting up with all my crap. Scott, sorry I had to wake you up every other night the past four years because someone was snoring. It really drives me crazy. All of you Alpha people, good luck in life. You too Gabby and you other rats. I know I have had my trying moments with this school, but I guess I have had my moments loving it too. So, I am more happy than anything to be leaving, but yet I will look back knowing I made the right choice. I remember my Second Class year when my younger brother Brett beat cancer, and I had never been, nor have been so proud of someone in my whole life. I hope that is what four years of VMI, has prepared me for; the emotional strength to get through hard times in life. I know I am not that strong as he is, but I hope VMI has brought me closer. Thanks to all who have helped me along the way.

Dyke Line
2000 - Wiliam Johnson
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Matthew Black
2006 - Colin Adams

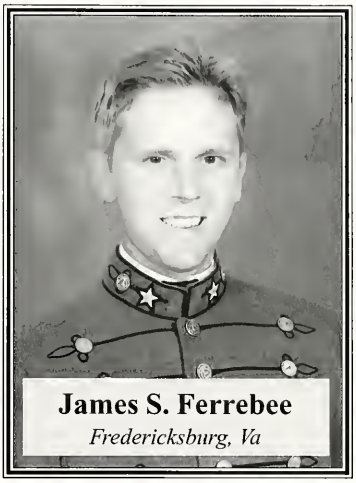
Dyke Line
2000 - Jason Marlow
2006 -



Justin A. Fentress
Viginia Beach, Va

Political Science - Army

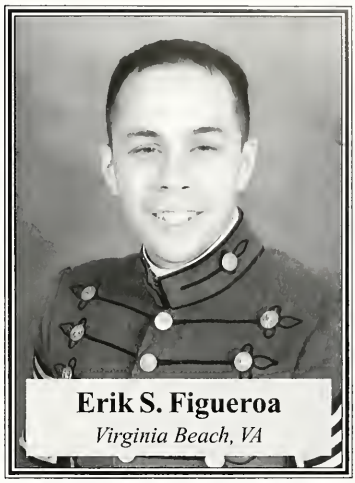
Where to begin? Graduation is finally here! Looking back, there are too many memories to even try and think about. But to start, the greatest thanks goes to the Lord above for everything, without him none of this would be possible. I have to give thanks to my mom, dad, and my sister. Ya'll have been incredible the past 4 years, I could not have asked for anymore from ya'll. You have supported me 110%, you have always been there for me for anything, you name it you were there every step of the way. To my roommates, Joe, Adam, and Burt, you guys are great friends, and yes, Willie too, we have all had millions of laughs together, thanks again. Senior year was a blast and it would not have been possible, without all the help of my family and friends, and of course Brenna, thanks for helping me through this and I look forward to tons of great times in the future. To all the rats in S-17, keep your head on strait, and good luck in everything you do. Now on with our lives in the real world, good luck guys, and take care!
"A Country Boy Can Survive"



James S. Ferrebee
Fredericksburg, Va

History - Army

Thanks to my Mom and Dad for providing me all the opportunities I have been given. I hope I become someone that you will be proud of; I love you guys. Sam and Will keep representing WHITE OAK style, ya heard! Thanks to all the guys who pretended to be my friends for a couple of years here for not straight calling me out for being a total geek, I appreciate that.



Erik S. Figueroa
Virginia Beach, VA

International Studies - Navy
Fig, Frankie Figs

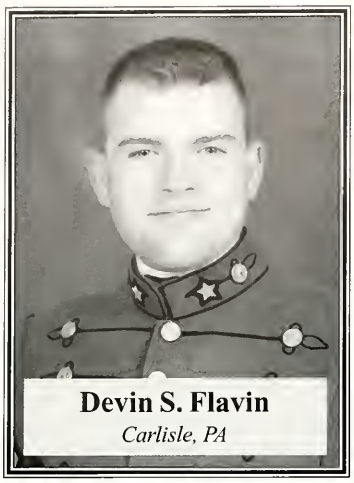
Scott Johnson, Will Warthen, Jay Kearney Thanks to my Mom and Dad for providing me all the opportunities I have been given. I hope I become someone that you will be proud of; I love you guys. Sam and Will keep representing WHITE OAK style, ya heard! Where to begin? Graduation is finally here! Looking back, there are too many memories to even try and think about. But to start, the greatest thanks goes to the Lord above for everything, without him none of this would be possible. I have to give thanks to my mom, dad, and my sister. Ya'll have been incredible the past 4 years, I could not have asked for anymore from ya'll. You have supported me 110%, you have always been there for me for anything, you name it you were there every step of the way. To my roommates, Joe, Adam, and Burt, you guys are great friends, and yes, Willie too, we have all had millions of laughs together, thanks again. Senior year was a blast and it would not have been possible, without all the help of my family and friends, and of course Brenna, thanks for helping me through this and I look forward to tons of great times in the future. To all the rats in S-17, keep your head on strait, and good luck, and take care!

VMI Theater

Dyke Line
2000 - Scott Johnson, Will Warthen
2006 - Micah D. Amrozowicz

Dyke Line
2000 -Scott Johnson, Will Warthen, Jay Kearney
2006 - Timothy Fairchild

Dyke Line
2000 - Matt Anderson
2006 - Gregory Quillen, Quentin Rohlfs



Devin S. Flavin
Carlisle, PA

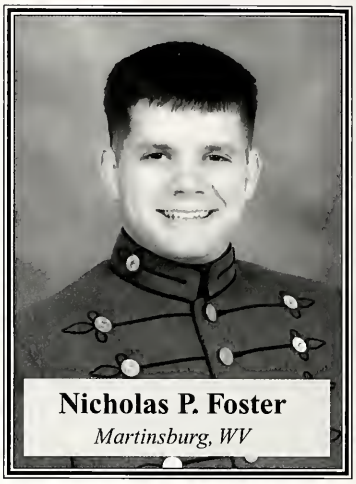
Chemistry - Army
Darth

Rachael C. Forrest
Sperryville, VA

Psychology - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



Nicholas P. Foster
Martinsburg, WV

Civil Engineering -Air Force
Fosthehoss, Nicky Finger Food, Blocks,

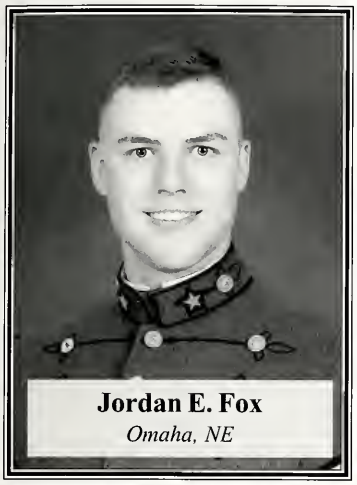
August 16th 1999 was a long time ago. I have grown so much since then and I have so many people to thank for that. First, I want to thank my family. With out them, I wouldn't be the person I am today. Thanks for putting up with me for so long. You never really realize how much your family means to you until you go away for a while. I love you Mom, Dad, Colin and Lindsay. I would also like to thank the outstanding professors, of the Civil Engineering Dept. It takes a special person to come to a place like VMI and teach. Thank you for putting in those long hours and forcing me to work hard. To Sammy, Mike, Andy, Chris, Tripper, Jon, Matt and the rest of the Cracker Barrel Crew, we had some good times here and I'm proud to call you guys my friends. Thank you Matt McQueen for making my life complete by sharing the same bed with me during Spring Break. Someone once told me that you would make the best friends at VMI. Well…they were right. The door will be open for y'all, always. To my rats: Fight the good fight. You can't change everything, but it may be worth a try. May 16, 2006 isn't as far away as you think. Tiger Echo till the end.

"If I were the king of this whole crazy world, I'm telling you there'd be some changes made."

Dyke Line
2000 - Steve McMenamin
2006 - Heather Brown

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Lacey Phillips

Dyke Line
2000 - Matthew Neely
2006 - Mark Castillo, Burgess Lindsay

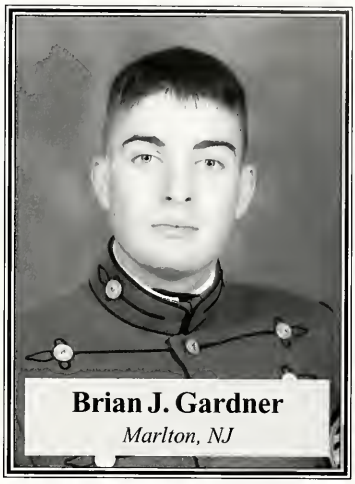


Jordan E. Fox
Omaha, NE

Economics & Business -Army
The Colonel

Josh B. Frank
Montvale, VA

Computer Science - Air Force



Brian J. Gardner
Marlton, NJ

English - Air Force
Old man; Gradner

TWO roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;
Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,
And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.
I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Robert Frost (1916)

What is it, really, other than a motorcycle accident victim just trying to show off? Think that when Josh Frank not only crosses the commencement stage, but walks across it. Josh was thrown from his motorcycle May 31, 1998, as he tried to enter Interstate 81 northbound. He was hurled into the guardrail – the impact causing a severe compound fracture in his right leg. At the time, Josh thought he only chipped a tooth. He had no idea he would be in the hospital two weeks and four surgeries later. After Josh was released, he embarked on a three-month odyssey of virtual immobilization. He started walking with a regular shoe about the time his brother rats in the class of 1999 graduated. He came back to VMI, but left again – defeated. After a year of slumming it as a student and making it as a professional, his wits got the better of him and he returned to VMI – this time to finish what he started in the summer of 1995. Josh doesn't need a college degree. His capabilities as a sound leader and able computer scientist would have carried him easily to prosperity (never mind the fact he failed weight training. Twice). But a degree from VMI was a different story. For some, it's a four-year story. For other's, it's five. But Josh knows life has its setbacks. And his were the ones that earned him the distinction of one of The World's Greatest Lovers.

I have been asked numerous times inquiring on why I came to VMI. Of course there are various different reasons on why I came but I think deep down the main reason I really came was to escape the excessive nagging of my mom. Of course like all great ideas of mine it crashed and burned, however VMI did teach me the fine art of taking what is said and letting it go out the other ear.... thanks VMI. Mom, your ability to worry about every fine detail in my life has never ceased to amaze me but the love you have given me is something that words alone cannot express. Your dedication as a mother to see me succeed has always driven me to make you proud. Kelly- your love and dedication in changing me to the good looking guy I am now will always hold a special place in my heart...oh yea I love you. Billy, Tommy, Josh and Kyle- when it boiled down to it, it was you guys that made coming back to this damn place bearable. Kirb and PJ- you guys were excellent rats and good people and I know both of you will succeed in whatever endeavor you guys do.

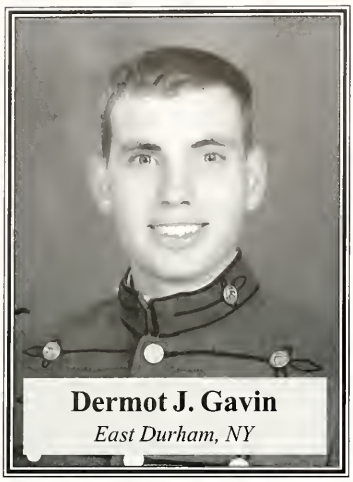
"They said 'Cheer up - things could be worse.' So I cheered up...and sure enough, things got worse." - ***GKH***

Blood Drive CIC- 4,3,2,1; Rank of some disposition- 3,2,1
Strength & Fitness Club-1; Worm: 4,3,2,1

Dyke Line
2000 - David Emmerich
2006 - Brenton Spry, Bradley Steidle

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 -

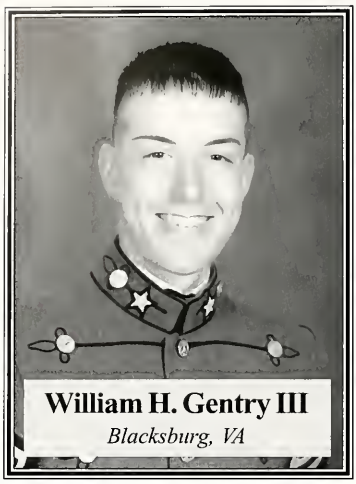
Dyke Line
2000 - John Kearney
2006 - Patrick Grey, Kirby Smith



Dermot J. Gavin
East Durham, NY

History - Army
Squirrel

"It's Time To Go"... I have spent four long but short years at this place we call Hell. I have to say that I have grown and matured immensely. I have gained the trust and friendship of many along the way. I would like to thank all the guys who were there for me. First, my roommates: Clint, Adam, Wes, Mario, Taylor, Paule, Gerke, Jim, Doug, and Bubba. The times we shared being canned up in a room the size of a closet will be remembered. You guys deserve recognition in the Guinness Book for the greatest number of Ball Ups. I spent many a day away from this place be it NYC, Roanoke, DC, W&L, or Lexvegas. Thanks to everyone who accompanied me on those escapades especially Jason, Kyle, Brad, Mike, Kevin, Tommy, Metz, Burton, Pete, Jared, and Pat. Those times will never be forgotten. The "Harr-Gavin Adventures"! Rats...you will make it...claw through the hard times and savor the good ones. Good luck Mike, Ben, and all my other kids... never forget this...If I can make it through any one can! I can't leave without thanking all the EMT's of the ERT and Rescue One...Thanks! It has been an arduous and tough journey but it has come to an end...Thank God!!! Thanks Mom, Dad, Bernadette, Mary, John, Helena, and Jim! I made it Will, Mark, Paul, Luke, and John...thanks to what you guys taught me! I wish the best of luck to the Classes of 2000 and 2003! God Bless. Keep Da' Faith!!!



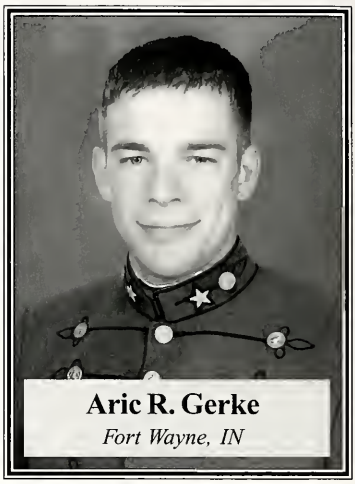
William H. Gentry III
Blacksburg, VA

Economics & Business - Army
Wilhelm

The time has come when I will be able to blend protein shakes at my leisure without having to worry about roaming tacs or screaming roommates. It is at this time in my cadetship that I realize just how lucky I am to have roommates that will put up with such things. I learned a lot from observing them, for I hope that I may live up to the example they bestowed upon me. I learned how to control my emotions, and to be rational from Brian. "No what I'm saying." Aaron taught me to be tolerant. "BRIAN, stop snoring!" Scott's ego has kept me humble. "Am I not the sexiest man alive?" I will always love you' all and I will be honored to salute you.

To the rats. Gravy, keep up the good work, you will do very well here. I was undeserving of such a good dyke. Yes Gabby, your ratline was harder than your brothers. Despite your intense training this year Fox, I don't see a future of folding underwear in a department store. Joe, your attitude will serve you well in life, and many PT's while you're here.

I am proud to be a part of the class of 2003. Some people I liked more than others, but I will surly miss everyone. I will not miss Crozet. Col. Bush, you are a great example and a good friend.



Aric R. Gerke
Fort Wayne, IN

Psychology - Marine Corps
ElGerke, Beef-Gerke, Meat-head

Examining these last four years leaves me with the considerable task of judging whether or not it was worth all the hardship and sacrifice. A negative reply would demoralize all earnings and values, and belittle those circumstances that demonstrated rational wonder and intelligence. Yet to give a wholehearted affirmative would be to overlook the inane and dogmatic traditions and predations of this institution.

Like anyone else, I cannot stress enough the importance of friends made here, drawing me through those all too frequent expanses of darkness and doubt. And a word of love for my mother- without whose constant adoration and support I would never have been able to accomplish anything.

Perhaps the answer to the original question lies in a promise for the future- to use these lessons learned to the best of abilities, whether they be examples of virtue and lucid intellect or sheer folly and idiocy to avoid.

Rats, try not to be too worthless, and be sure to make it all count.

I wish you could have stayed around, Barrett; you would have made it all more tolerable.

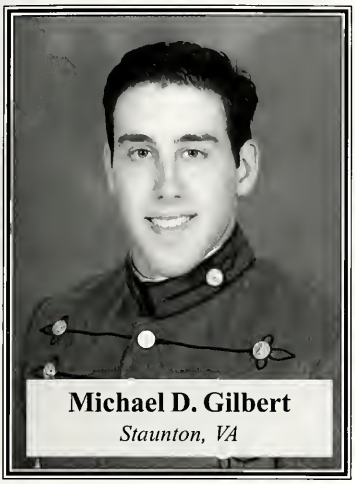
Finally, may all our futures remain bright, because we have time for which we must rectify.

CIG, Powerlifting, Academic Mentoring

Dyke Line
2000 - William Moore
2006 - Michael Pasquale, Ben Mowery

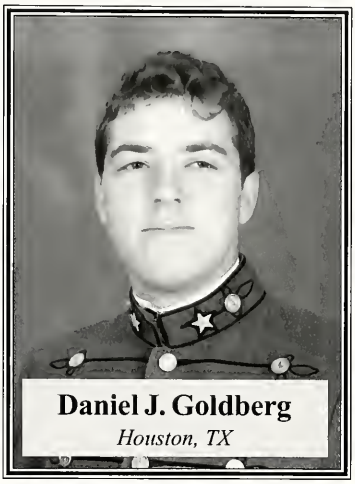
Dyke Line
2000 - Derek Engelhard
2006 - John Garvey

Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Gamble
2006 - Jon Everiss



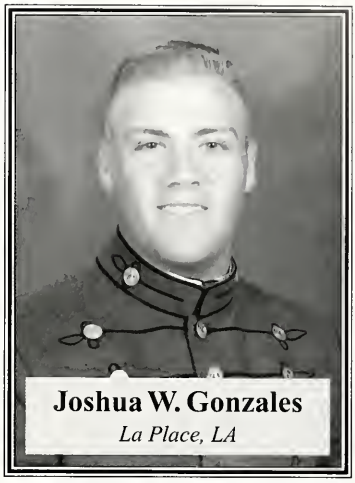
Michael D. Gilbert
Staunton, VA

Biology - Army



Daniel J. Goldberg
Houston, TX

International Studies - Army



Joshua W. Gonzales
La Place, LA

International Studies - Army

Dannos Cablammos Agamemnon, the Golden Jew,

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

The Breakfast Burrito: a delightful and fulfilling meal that can be quickly assembled for the cadet on the go. For a few moments out of the day, one can forget this Spartan existence and find himself in a salsa party in Monterrey, Mexico. The burrito consists of tortillas, eggs, cheese, salsa and just about anything else you want throw in there: bacon to cream cheese to potatoes—believe me, I've seen it all. As I sat in the mess hall staring at my plate, I realized that the food had no taste. Next thing I know, the angel Gabriel was in front of me with a divine message. After a brief conversation with several prominent figures of the mess hall community the breakfast burrito came into fruition.
Besides my illustrious time spent in heated debates over the most irrelevant issues, I'd like to note that confinement, penalty tours and probation are second nature to me. That was my cadetship. What grand times. But to trade that in I would have never been able to bring about the utter chaos I strove for on a daily basis. To my rats, I'll tell you what my dyke once told me: Unless it's relevant to academics, do NOT attempt to walk in my footsteps. Ray, Rob and Matt and all the DUDES: damn, did we kick some ass. To all those who didn't stick around till the end. I still love you. To my family: you are the world to me. Dror & David: this was all for you. Finally, I'll pay tribute to the Man Upstairs: thank you, God. I'm out…and where are my pants?

After four years of being at VMI, I know now who I must give thanks too for helping me to finish at VMI. First I want to give thanks to the two people in this world who have always believed in me and that is my Mom and Dad. Both of you instilled values in me that have helped me to become who I am today. Without y'all I would have never been able to get to the point I am today. Next I would like to thank Noo and Granny for always being there for me too. I am glad that both of you will see me walk across that stage as a VMI grad. I would also like to thank my favorite girl in the world. Thank you Shannon for staying with me and being by my side this last year. Lastly, I would like to thank the four VMI guys that showed me how to be a VMI cadet. My dyke Eric and my uncle dykes Dave, Derrick, and John. You guys were the best dykes a rat could have. Lastly to all the friends I have made at VMI. Ben, Bert, Jimmy, Kennon, Will and Pat, we've had some great times and I wish the best to all of you. To my rat Paul, keep your head up and keep working hard and you'll succeed in life.

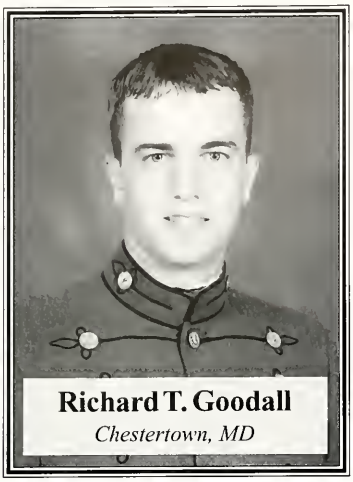
Now that my cadetship is over I can look back and see that VMI was the only school for me. Although it has its flaws, VMI has given me more opportunity than any other school could have. I know what I've learned at VMI will carry through with me the rest of my life. VMI Class of 2003! Golf Co.

A-J Club 4th till 1st. Room Confinement: 4th. Con-Pro 1st, 3rd, 4th. Model Arab League 1st,2nd, 3rd. Pre Law 1st OGA Defense Counsel 1st . Cadet Newspaper 1st and 3rd. Alpha Sigma Sigma: 1st. Fighting the Man: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th.

Dyke Line
2000 - Aaron Demory
2006 -

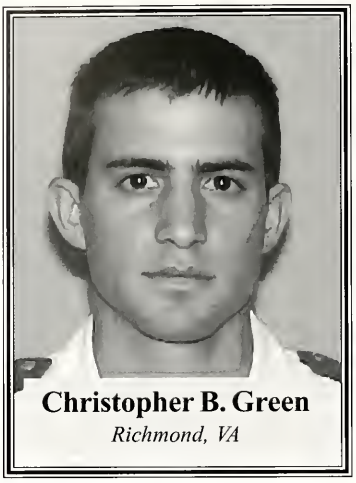
Dyke Line
2000 -Brian Skusa
2006 -Michael Hiltner, Andrew Neckman

Dyke Line
2000 - Eric Walker
2006 - Paul Witherspoon



Richard T. Goodall
Chestertown, MD

Economics & Business - Army



Christopher B. Green
Richmond, VA

Economics & Business - Army

Sean M. Griffis
Owensboro, KY

History - Navy

While going through the past four years they have seemed like the longest years of my life. Now, being able to look back on them I have to admit I can not believe how fast it has gone. From being the ghost rat of Golf Company to mess hall representative first class year it does not seem like that much has changed. Lacrosse has done its best to keep me busy over the past four years. There have been many interesting times and just as many interesting evenings discussing these events. Then to finally get in a league and have something to play for this final year has made it worth while. Thanks to my family and friends that have helped me make it here, especially through the hard times this place causes

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

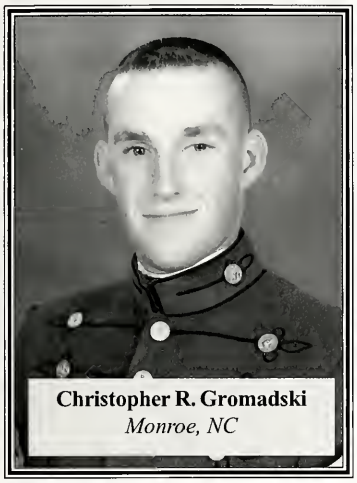
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Lacrosse, mess hall representative

Dyke Line
2000 - John Pomfret
2006 - Lee Cook

Dyke Line
2000 - Timothy Catalano
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Jason Ellwein



Christopher R. Gromadski
Monroe, NC

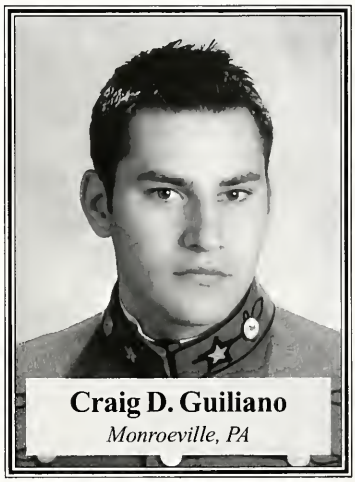
Electrical Engineering - Marine Corps
"Gromads" "ski" "Shunt"

I just couldn't think of what to write about him that would accurately and succinctly describe the VMI experience that we shared. I say shared because we lived together from Third Class year until graduation. Since that time I can truly say that Chris has become my best friend and has helped me through the thick and thin that VMI has to throw at the average cadet. This includes, but is not limited, to: living with "The Bark", me giving him advice about relationships, him helping me through a long and tiresome breakup and of course my A-1, in other words he was always there if you needed him. I can't really think of what to say about Chris that can accurately describe him to the average "Jo." All I can say is he was a great cadet/ midshipman/friend/student/athlete/engineer/ranker/roommate. I would also like to say that I hope that the USMC is ready for him, because he's going to make a great officer and probably be one of its greatest leaders. I know that he is ready to go out there into the real world and make his life start. I just hope that I will be able to keep in touch with him over the coming years and that his fiancée and he have a great life together. Chris, I just want to tell you a couple of things. Keep your head down, your mind open and never forget what we learned (including what the admin taught us about leadership).

Mihaela Guberovic
Croatia

Mathematics & Physics - Army
Goober

Mihaela came to us in the Fall of 1999 from across the pond and then some, attending VMI on a Croatian Army scholarship. Cadre, frustrated with trying to pronounce 'Guberovic', dubbed her 'Goober', a name now used by everyone on Post when referring to their favorite little Croatian. Goober didn't have too much trouble making friends on Post, she is certainly loved by everyone who meets her. Luckily for all of us, she has decided to stay with us in the States to pursue her doctorate in mathematics, but we suspect she's really sticking around to keep close tabs on all of her brother rats. A friend of mine said of Goober: "she's got a mind like a supercomputer and the personality to boot". She loves her friends, family, and brother rats more than anything in the world, and they all love her back. I've always felt that toughing out VMI was hard, but toughing out VMI as a foreign student much harder. Goober made it look easy, bearing academic stars and rank, playing soccer for the I, and still finding time for her friends. If all Croatians are like Goober, Croatia must be a country worth visiting. I know I'm going to miss her when she goes down to Duke to study, everything is going to seem a bit off without Goober hanging around to talk and joke around with. She's a Croatian at heart, but we hope she considers America her other home. Goober will be sorely missed by all, best wishes to her and her bright future ahead. <JON>



Craig D. Guiliano
Monroeville, PA

International Studies - Army

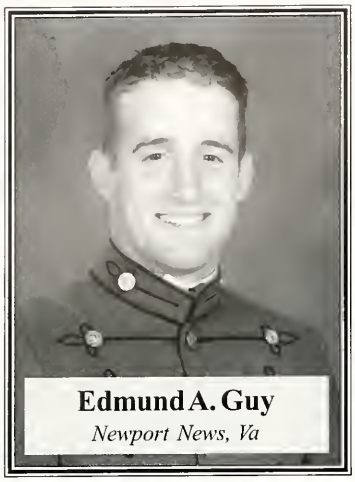
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Reg. staff, 1,2,3; Rock Climbing 1,2, 3; Hunan's VIP 3; Tool 1,2,3,4

Dyke Line
2000 - Matthew Neely
2006 - Steve Bechtel, Dan Purdy

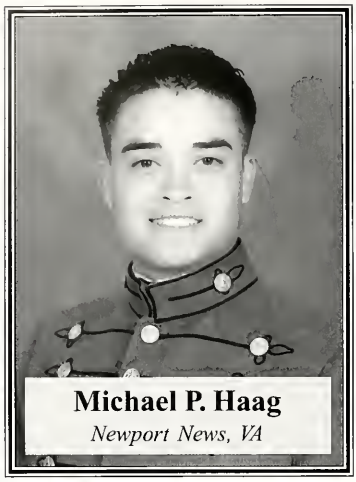
Dyke Line
2000 -William Herrington
2006 -Robyn Schaperjahn

Dyke Line
2000 - Jason Maslow
2006 - Forrest Tharrington



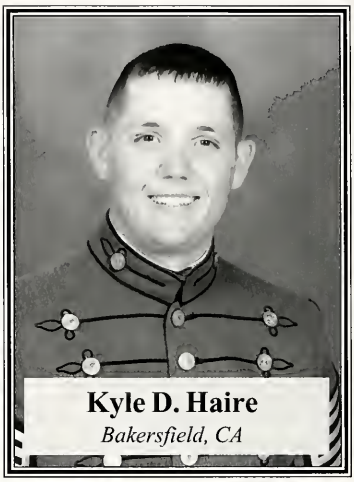
Edmund A. Guy
Newport News, Va

International Studies - Army
TREY



Michael P. Haag
Newport News, VA

International Studies - Air Force
Pugg



Kyle D. Haire
Bakersfield, CA

Political Science - Marine Corps

Thank you to all the people that made my 4 years here an experience I will never forget, Even if I they really hard. Special thanks to my parents for their love and understanding. To al my friends I leave behind, keep the faith. Chris I hope you experience is all mine was. Kyle study some more. Joe don't do anything to smart or people might start to shun you. I served my time now I'm out.

Four long years is finally reaching an end! Though there were many rough and bad times here it's the good ones that I will take away with me. First of all, I thank God for always being there and guiding and providing me the strength to make it. To my Mom and Dad, thank you for sacrificing so much and encouraging me to always do my best. To Carolyn, thank you for being a great sister and mentor to me when I needed someone to vent to. Now you are a beautiful wife to Chris and a wonderful mother to Garret. To Jessica, my beautiful I love you dearly and want to thank you for sticking with me on our "lil journey" even though distance and rough times weighed heavily on us. To Andy, Chris, Sammy, Tripper, Matt, Nick, Jon and "The Guy" thank you guys for helping me see the brighter side in all this and being the brothers I never had. I will always remember the good times we all had like hunting in GA, or just laying awake into the early morning laughing VMI into a bearable place or just joking on Tripper for his ace-gina. Lil Scro, Clint, Stevo-sore-as, Geoff, Erv and Jeff stay tough and keep a good attitude about this whole place. I wish all you guys in your lives and

VMI has given me so many opportunities to do and experience great things. It has made me a better person for it. Not many people can say that they have accomplished what we have all finally achieved. I never fully understood what VMI was really about, but now finished it all suddenly makes sense. If given the chance to do it all over again, I would do it in a heartbeat. The friendships here have been forged in steel and time-tested. They will last an eternity.

Paul, Wes and Dan: This story shall the good man teach his son; and Crispin Crispian shall ne'er go by, from this day to the ending of the world, but we in it shall be remembered;

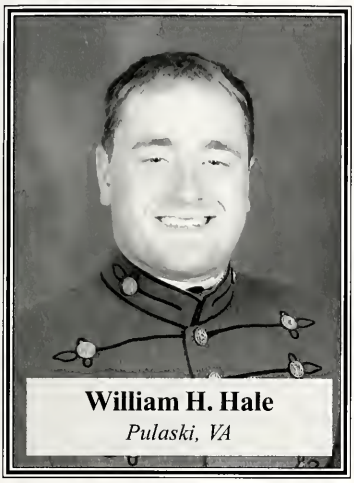
We few, we happy few, we Band of Brothers; For he to-day that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile, this day shall gentle his condition;

And gentlemen in England now a-bed shall think themselves lesser men that they were not here, and hold their manhood's cheap whiles any speaks that fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day. "

Dyke Line
2000 - Jacob Bilthus
2006 - Kyle Deem, Joseph Brown

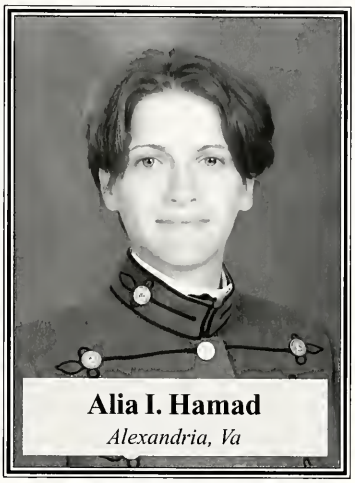
Dyke Line
2000 - Charles Brady
2006 - Michael Yeo

Dyke Line
2000 - Michael Gereau
2006 - Jordan Pagones, Brian Kerrebrock



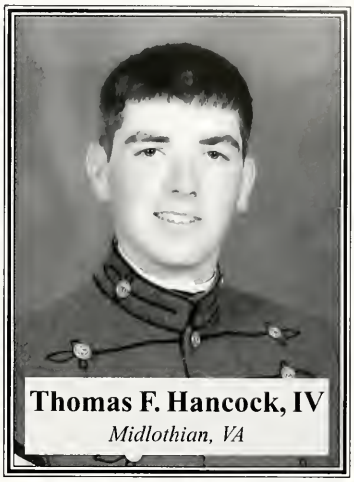
William H. Hale
Pulaski, VA

Biology - Army
"The Pride of Pulaski"



Alia I. Hamad
Alexandria, Va

Biology - Army



Thomas F. Hancock, IV
Midlothian, VA

Economics & Business - Army

Dad and Mom, thanks for everything if it were not for your love, support and hardheadedness then I would have been gone from here a long time ago. I just hope I make both of you as proud of me as I am of you being my parents. Ashley, I know it is hard being away from each other but thank you so much for sticking by me through this place. You made me realize a lot about life and opened my eyes to the future, not just the present. And I pray that the future you helped me see will always see us together in it. David, man I am so proud of you. You give me something to brag about to all the guys here and I know they get tired of hearing it, but they are proud of you too. I don't know how you do all the things you do, I guess I just trained you well. Mary, I remember when I was thinking about leaving and you said, "No you can't leave I have been planning on coming to graduation and seeing you walk across the stage so I can start crying." Well it looks like this May you will be able to do that, but still keep your fingers crossed.
Billy, you letters and confidence did wonders for me!
Last, but not least, all my buddies here. You all made it so much easier and really worth while. I appreciate you guys always being there for me, and know I will always be there for you. But now the time has come to go our separate ways and I am heading back to Pulaski, ya'll are welcome anytime

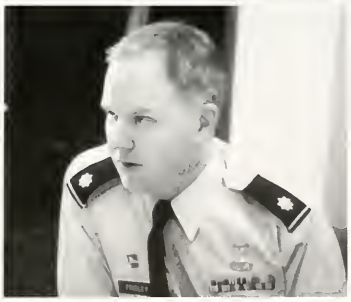
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

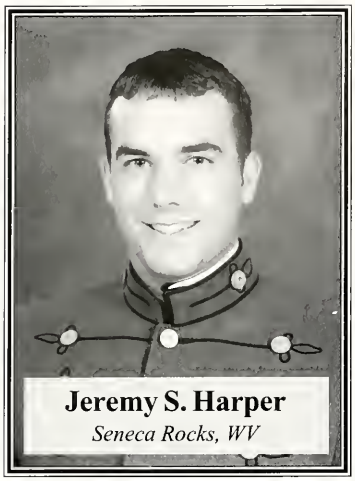
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Phillip Hopkins
2006 - Aaron Hawkins, Marcus Barnes

Dyke Line
2000 -Benjamin Murray
2006 - Amber Blain, Nicholas Mazzenga

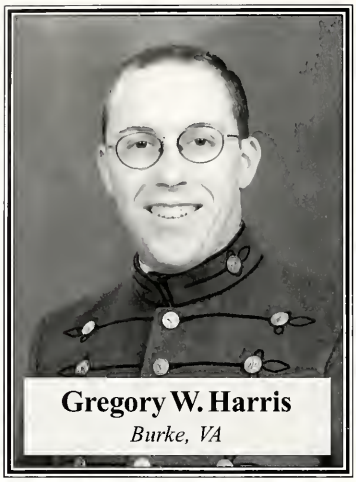
Dyke Line
2000 - Nathaniel Rhodes
2006 -





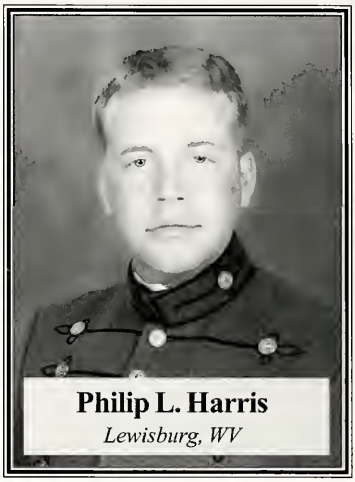
Jeremy S. Harper
Seneca Rocks, WV

Biology - Army



Gregory W. Harris
Burke, VA

International Studies - Army



Philip L. Harris
Lewisburg, WV

Economics & Business - Army
Stabbin

It's hard to believe that the day I have been looking forward to the most has finally arrived. After four years of struggle the burden has been lifted. It has been a long ride of ups and downs, in which it took the best of friends to help me through. I want to thank God first and foremost for giving me the strength and determination to graduate. I want to thank my wonderful parents who have stuck by my side every step of the way, I couldn't have done it without you. I say thanks to all my roommates; Rat year to Tom, Allen, Josh, and Joe. Third class year to Mike D., Matt, and Adam. Thanks Mike, I owe you bro. To Bob and JB, you are the best roommates and friends I could ask for. To my rats, Gerard, Anthony, Matt, Ben, and Matt, hang in there guys, it goes fast. To all the guys in Base Co. and especially to Andy, Justin, Phil, and Jason, we had some great times together. I thank God for guys like you. I wish you all the Best of Luck. Peace, I'm OUT!!!!

Thank you to my parents and brother for their undying support without which I probably would have quit this place in the first 10 days. I will never forget Michelle Carrillo, Andrew Dawson (Roob), Slobodon Stipic, Rob McLean, Trey Guy, Andy Manos, Gary Pembleton, Kyle Padgett, Bill Fitzpatrick, Eric Poole, and Andy Lander. Who were always there to give advice and help me out when I needed it. You guys were the main reason this place was worth staying at. To my Rats Darren Wellner, Kyle Deem, and Joe Brown, you all did a good job and I'm proud of all of you I wish you the best of luck from here on out. I'm still not sure how I made it this far especially given the many times I wondered why was the point in continuing; you all are the reason I stayed and I will always be grateful for your support.

"If not you Who, If not now When?"

"It's THE Tiger use the definite article" Slobo
"I'm reformed I swear" Trey
"It's all Timmy's fault he is the one that made the mess" Tiger
"Puke and rally man" Roob

I don't remember much of my rat year. I remember that during classes the hard desktops did little to promote a comfortable nap. I remember sore muscles. I remember cadre telling us all that our high school sweethearts would dump us all before Christmas, and mine did. But most of all, I remember the friends I made. I will remember Barrett forever. Although he is gone now, he will be with us forever in memories he helped us to create, God bless his soul. Mark, we were always there for each other when it seemed no one else was, let us remember that. Chip, you were the first guy I met during STP. Four years later you're still a great friend, thanks. John, you were probably the first friend I ever had. I never thought we would go through college together. I have appreciated your friendship very much. To the rest of my boys, keep in touch and remember the good times we had together. Brother, thank you for the support. I am sorry we haven't been able to spend much time together over the years, but the few times you came to visit me really meant a lot. Dad, we've grown much closer since we have been apart. You have been a great father but most of all you have been a great friend. Your pride in myself is something I will never forget. Mom, thank you for taking care of me. I know that all you have ever wanted was to be a good mother and you have done that. I thank you the most, for giving me your heart when mine wasn't in the best of shape.

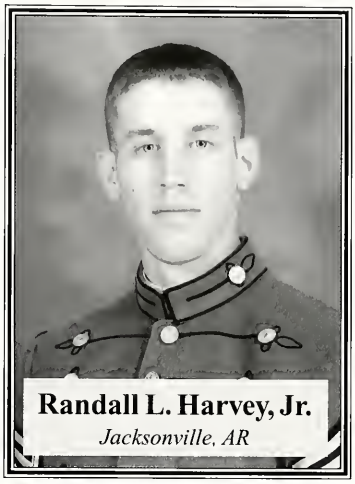
Dyke Line
2000 - Joshua Spradlin
2006 - Gerard Mills, Anthony Oliver

Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Boswell
2006 - Darren Wellner

Dyke Line
2000 - William Hoffman
2006 - Timothy Helmick

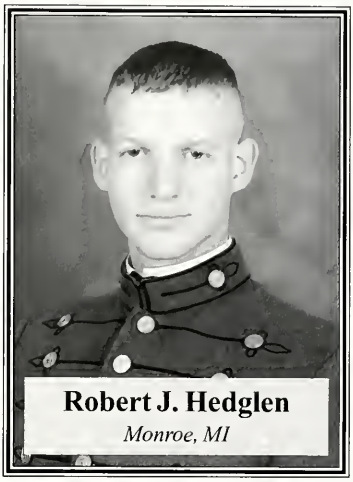
Jason R. Harr
San Diego, CA

History - Navy



Randall L. Harvey, Jr.
Jacksonville, AR

Political Science - Air Force



Robert J. Hedglen
Monroe, MI

English - Army

I guess the best way to explain the VMI experience is to tell about the friendships cadets gain while they are here. Jason has been a true BR. He would help me with work and always be willing to simply chill out and talk. He could always find the lighter side of things and simply laugh at how we as Cadets get screwed. His sense of humor is stellar. We both spent time in the early mornings and evenings under the watchful guidance of P. Hugger, taking the flag down as Color SGTs. It could be 1am or 1 pm and Jason would still be willing to listen and just shoot the shit. He knows well…I need a watcher when I go out and he has done a spectacular job…(We'll just overlook Roanoke). Of course we had our time away from the Institute….Charlotte, W&L, UVA, JMU, Longwood, Georgetown, Richmond, Lexvegas and the infamous Roanoke College Incident…the list goes on and on. Jason has always been the one guy at VMI that always surprised me. For example…we would go out to W&L on Saturday and visit with Romeo Styles of the *Right On Band* and have a whole lot of fun. Sunday morning would role around and I would still be in bed at 3:30 p.m. in the afternoon. Jason would have already worked out and finished his work. Just remember one thing….the world has not experienced all of the Harr-Gavin adventures…..many still remain to be seen. Good luck and I'll be seeing ya' around!!!

"Pumping Iron" is the greatest movie of all time. That pretty much sums it all up. For all off you still doing time on the inside, (Tripp, Dave, Eric, Divito) I'll see you when you get out. Little quote action to close: "Everything is OK in the end. If it's not OK, then it's not the end.

Stay SOLID

-R

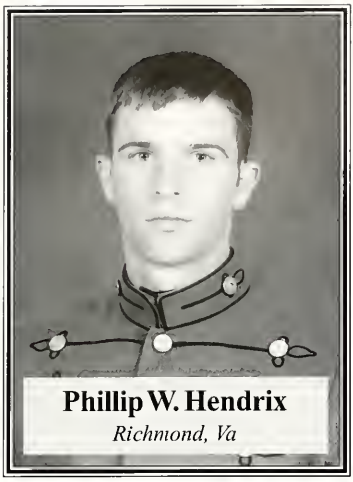
So VMI was a pretty interesting place. More than anything it annoyed the hell out of me, but it was also the best thing for me to do. My friends were the most important. Matt, for helping me through my first year. My roommates: Joe (fellow black sheep of the MARINES), Darnell (for all the talks we had), and Randall (giving me something at VMI to be happy about). Long live 440. And for Sinatramaniac, remember whatever it is you may have learned from me. Baragona, the best teacher I ever had. I've learned much about who I am. No matter what happens in the future, I'm sure that I can see the world with my eyes open now. I finished VMI and I brought Luke with me. Now for the next generation of Marines in the Hedglen family. I hope I can make you proud and do honor to our name. For those who "know" who I AM, my friends and family, my loyalty to you is undying. Thanks to my family for their support. Dad: you have always kept me on the right track and I respect you. Mom: your love for me has made me strong and understanding. Dee: my lil sister who brings a smile to my face. My brother John, whom I hold above all others. Jamais Arriere.

Rugby 3rd class year, Bulldog 2nd class year, RDC 1st class year.

Dyke Line
2000 - Colin Mahle
2006 - Matthew Dragoo

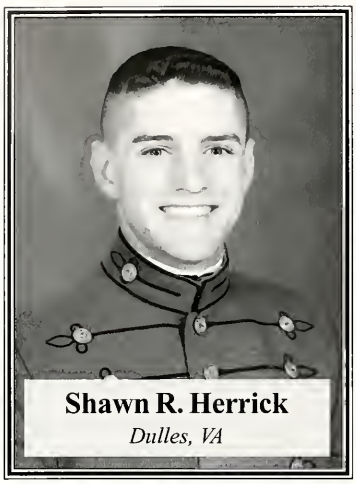
Dyke Line
2000 -Scott Hillyer
2006 -David Santoro, Eric Bliss, Matt Pumphrey

Dyke Line
2000 - Ryan Newman
2006 - Alexander Laryea, David Santoro



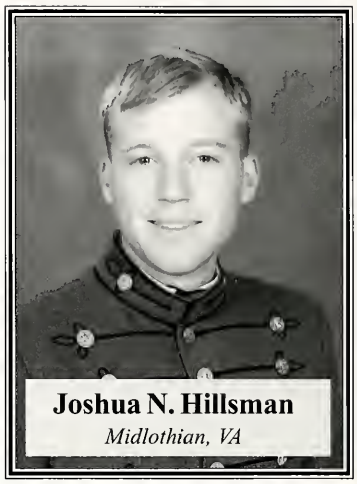
Phillip W. Hendrix
Richmond, Va

Political Science - Army



Shawn R. Herrick
Dulles, VA

Political Science - Army



Joshua N. Hillsman
Midlothian, VA

History - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

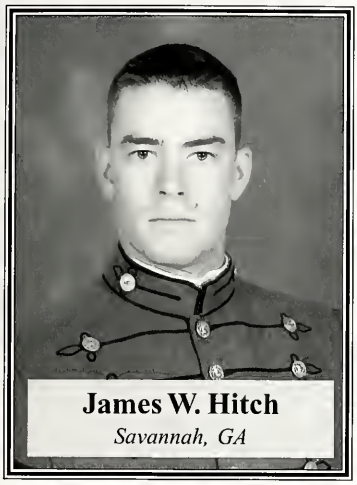
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

We may not have the answers to every question in life, but if someone asked me what was my motivation for remaining at VMI, I would simply tell them it was my parents. From the first phone call home to the walk across the stage I realized that I was never alone. I have grown to realize the importance of the knowledge that I have absorbed from you and how I have sculpted that into my own life. I just want to say thank you for your undying support and motivation. I love you all with all my heart and owe my VMI career to you all.
Lindsie: You always knew I could do it and that will never be forgotten. I only hope that I can do the same for you.
Mongie: You will never be forgotten 3/26/03
Babba and Bubba, the Natural Bridge Criminals.
Kim: Not only are you a protectorate of our nation, you are also my best friend. Will & AJ: Some things will never be forgotten, lets keep it that way. "Failure will never overtake me if my determination to succeed is strong enough" "Lock up your daughter lock up your wife, lock up the back door and run for your life" AC/DC Hate don't mate
"It takes failure to learn success"
If I am not the craziest person you have ever met, then you don't get out much. Rat Challenge, Private to Lieutenant
Thank you, God for all you have done for me.

Dyke Line
2000 - Eric Walker
2006 - Boyd Worlington, James Covington

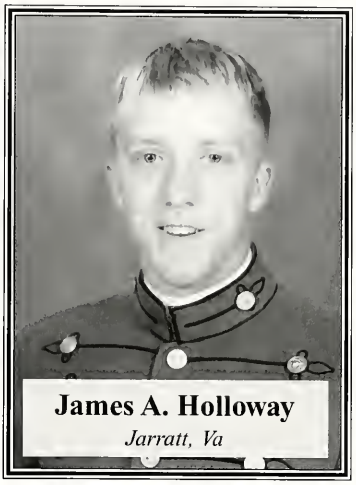
Dyke Line
2000 - Ronald Allen, Jr.
2006 - Jacob Goff, Shawn Hogan

Dyke Line
2000 - Paul Belmont
2006 - Ryan Tibbs, Michael Werner



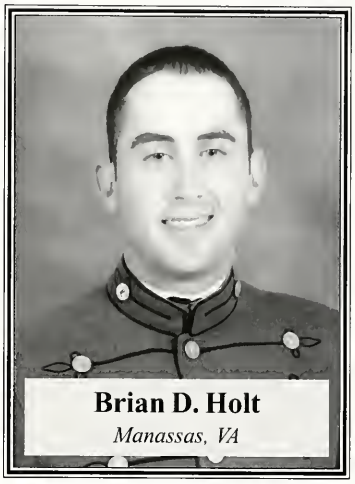
James W. Hitch
Savannah, GA

History - Army



James A. Holloway
Jarratt, Va

Economics & Business - Army



Brian D. Holt
Manassas, VA

Electrical Engineering - Air Force

I would like to mention the things that are, such as the few individuals around post who went against VMI's normal policy and were encouraging and helpful over the years. Men such as Lt. Col. Rivers (who gained more respect from me in one conversation than most men on post ever did), teachers like Maj. Dowling, and Col. Ball, who didn't call me a "piece of sh*t" when I went to them for help. I am most grateful for the people who put up with my constant griping like, Joe, and all my roommates, Josh, Toby and many others…To those who gave me answers, such as my dykes, Doug, and Joel (who deserves much credit to my success and a special thanks).Nick Work, a person who represents everything VMI should be about and of course, they turned their backs on him. Andy and Stew who were both big factors in the development of my personality. George, Michael and the guys of SAE, who took me under their wing, and have helped me stay sane over the years. And most especially, my family. Sarah you gave me advice based on your experiences and I can't think of how an older sibling could do more. Mom you gave me the courage to fight it out week after week. You showed me what working hard is all about through example and I must say you are amazing. Dad, without your words of guidance I would have never come here in the first place. I hope this is what you wanted of me.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and who's coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

I would like to thank my parents and family for all their love and support through my four years at VMI. I could have never done it without them. I would also like to thank Maj. Squire for keeping me motivated to learn and to enjoy it. He has been a true inspiration in my life and educational experience here at VMI.

Thank you for everything!!
"Never take council of your fears"

cadre 00-02, VaNG SMP

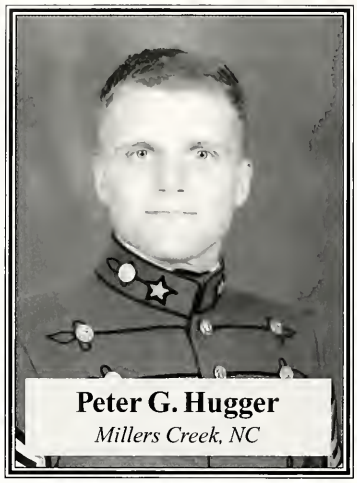
Dyke Line
2000 - James Burns III
2006 - Richard Adamson

Dyke Line
2000 -James Sheldon
2006 -Brian McGill

Dyke Line
2000 - Ryan Cengeri
2006 -

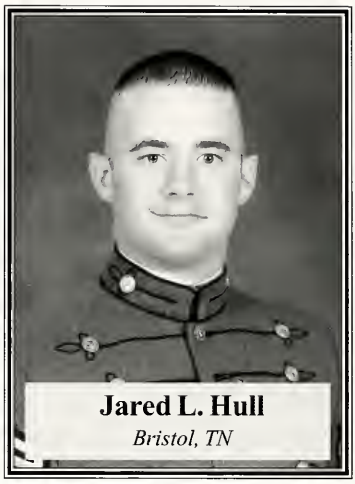
Tsung-Ta Ho
Rockville, MD

Electrical Engineering - Army



Peter G. Hugger
Millers Creek, NC

Physics - Air Force



Jared L. Hull
Bristol, TN

History - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

God bless VMI. God bless it.

After 3 ½ good years at VMI, and one horrible semester, it is finally time to leave. I can't say that I will not mss my friends, but I am certain that I speak for the rest of my classmates in saying that 4 years is good enough. I have had the opportunity to create bonds with many of my classmates, as well as serve the institute in several different leadership capacities. I could not have done it without the support of my family. After driving me back and forth to school for THREE YEARS, coming to EVERY function VMI had, and always taking their free time to come get me out of barracks for a day, it had finally come to an end. Thanks for everything mom, dad, Clint and Aaron.

My roommates have also been an important addition to my VMI experience. Our 23 hour a day friendship (minus 0650-0800) has been truly interesting to say the least. Along with them, I must mention my inspiration for my military career. Captain Murray and SFC Thornton have shown examples of leadership which I plan to follow during my Army career. They have been devoted to their jobs, and have given me all the tools with which to succeed in years to come.

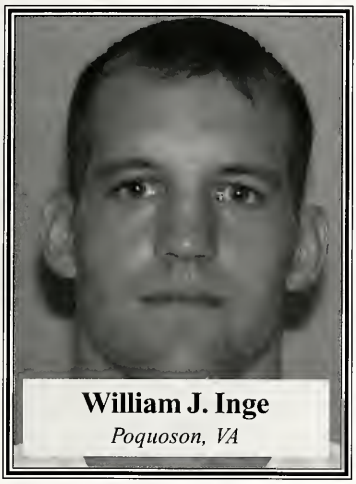
Good luck to all my brother rats, and God bless.

Golf Company Cadre Corporal 2000-2001; Golf Company Master Sergeant 2001-2002; Golf Company Executive Officer 2002; Golf Company Commander 2003; New Cadet Military Training Cadre 2002-2003

Dyke Line
2000 - Guang-Rong Shyong
2006 - Siliang Zhang

Dyke Line
2000 - Jeremy North
2006 - Thomas Moncure

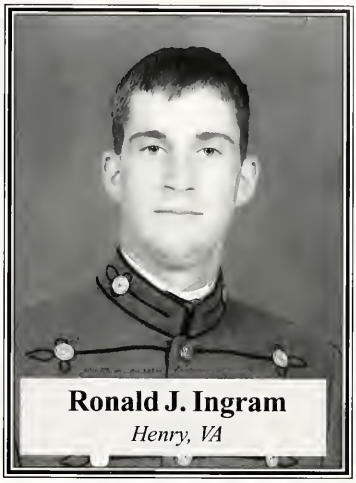
Dyke Line
2000 - Jeremy North
2006 - John Sheckells, Mark Bush



William J. Inge
Poquoson, VA

History - Army

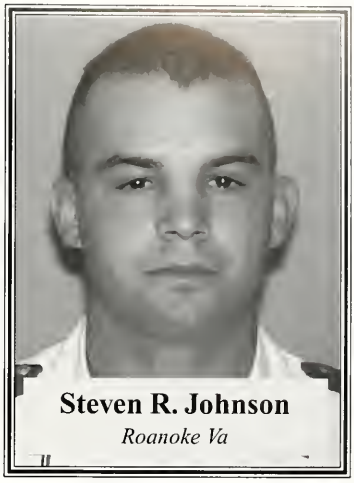
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



Ronald J. Ingram
Henry, VA

Civil Engineering - Army

Good gracious how the time has past. I've seen several changes and even changed myself quite a bit. The first thing I can think when writing this is all my BR's and people I've met along the way and how fortunate I am to have met you all. I sure wouldn't trade them for the world. That was one of my favorite things to do around this place was to go visit everyone. It always picks up the day and it kinda made the days go by faster too. I had my days that I truly hated, but overall I think I had some pretty good times too. As for my parents I sure do appreciate all ya'll have done for me. You have taken such good care and have always looked out for me. Well to Cliff, my rat, good luck on everything. Well, my dyke gave me some advice and well, I thought it was pretty good, so I guess I'll pass it on. Make sure you get your studies done and have a little fun too and don't take stuff so serious. You'll be writing one of these before you know it. Best wishes to everyone, it's time to see what's waiting out there. I look forward from hearing from everyone in the future. I'll sum it up in my terms "How bout that and keep on winnin!"



Steven R. Johnson
Roanoke Va

Psychology - Army

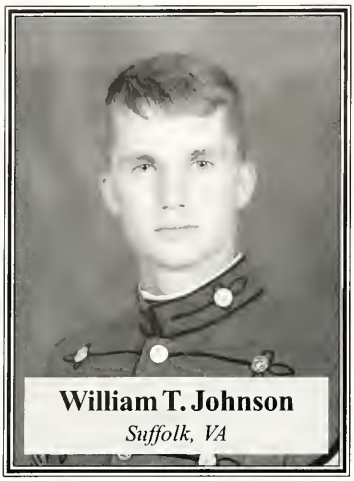
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Ring Figure Chairman, CIG (Group B President), Pre-Law Society, Racquetball Club ACIC

Dyke Line
2000 - Charles Decher
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Thomas Forsyth
2006 - Clifton Ferguson

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 -

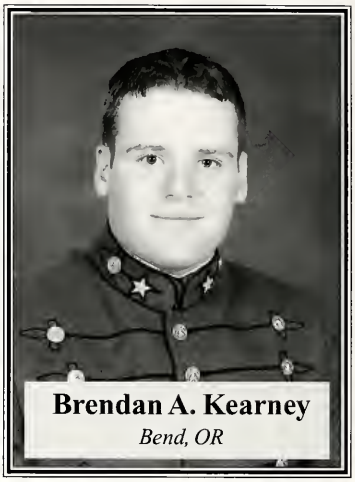


William T. Johnson
Suffolk, VA

Psychology - Marine Corps

Ruth J. Jun
San Pedro, CA

History -Marine Corps



Brendan A. Kearney
Bend, OR

Economics & Business - Army BK

I often explain VMI as both the best and worst experience of my life. I will never encounter such friends as I have made here, nor will I encounter such hardship. For my success I have only to show my gratitude for the individuals who supported me throughout the past four years. I don't think it could be possible to assemble a better group of young men as Hotel 03 turned out to be. We truly are a band of brothers. Jon, Anthony, Heather and Shawn. Congratulations on your accomplishment thus far, but keep in mind, "It ain't over yet". My hope is that our guidance has helped you to mature into well-rounded individuals, capable of surviving this four-year sampling of hell on earth. Continue to hold yourselves to a high standard in all your endeavors. I could not have asked for better roommates than Allen, Cliff and Shawn. Our ability to interact flawlessly contributed to the upbringing of our often mentally challenged Rats. My family deserves the greatest degree of applause, especially Grandparents. Their unwavering faith in my eventual success gave me more strength than they will ever imagine. Without my father's guidance and my mother's kind words, my life could have taken a different and possibly disastrous route. Thank you for allowing knuckleheads like myself see the correct path even when blinded by our own ineptitude.

What can I say about Ruth? Ruth has always been the person who has something to say but says it with words that no one can understand. I wish I knew Ruth earlier. We had a great year and a half living together. We hung out on every break (even though she slept through most of it) and we could always talk on the same wavelength (you know what I mean). She has been a great friend and dedicated shopping partner. She introduced me to the Korean culture and taught me what "real" sushi is (I swear no more California rolls). She has always been real to everyone and true to her heritage ("That must be one of them Injuns"). I was happy to see her graduate early knowing she was finally done but sad knowing that I had to endure a semester without her smartass remarks :-) She is respectable, honorable and never compromised her values for anyone. I am proud to say that I am her friend and that she is one of the wonderful women of VMI. I believe that fate brought us together as friends and I promise to keep the friendship for years to come. Good luck in your endeavors. We have had too much fun to let it all go. I will miss the shopping and the long conversations over expensive dinners (only with you could I have spent that much at Keswick without caring). I already miss you. -Alicia

It is very hard to imagine that these four years have past and that I will finally be graduating from VMI. First and foremost I would like to take the opportunity to thank my parents and family. I don't think I could have made it through so easily without your love and support. To my roommates Matt, Tom, and Brian, the last three years have been quite interesting to say the least. We have had some great times, most coming at Tom's expense as I recall, but nonetheless some very fond memories. I could not have had better friends. Though I wasn't able to have my own rat because of study abroad, I want to wish all you guys luck. Sean, Will, Ryan, Dan, and Kelley, Theodore Roosevelt said it best, "If you're going through hell, keep going". Stick in there guys, you will make it out just fine. Take Care VMI, I will see you in about 10 years.

"The credit belongs to those who are actually in the arena, who strive valiantly; who know the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spend themselves in a worthy cause; who at the best, know the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if they fail, fail while daring greatly, so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat".

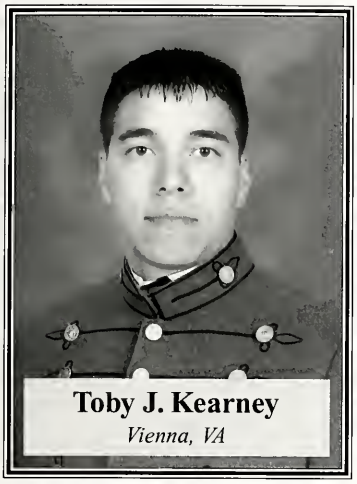
~Theodore Roosevelt

Well, I did it.

Dyke Line
2000 - Anthony Cerella
2006 - Jonathon Kelton, Jared Shiley

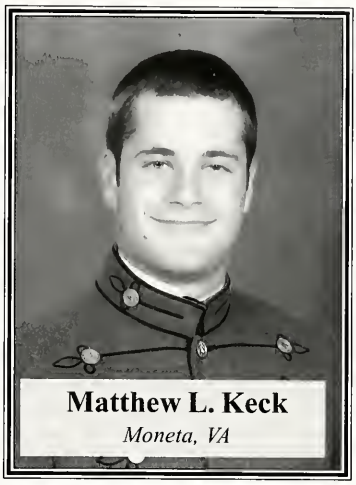
Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Keun Rhee, Angela Thompson

Dyke Line
2000 - Greg Bosley
2006 -



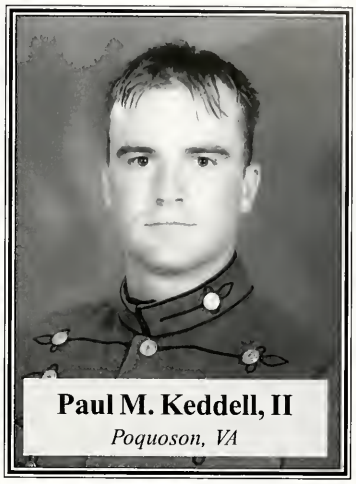
Toby J. Kearney
Vienna, VA

History - Army



Matthew L. Keck
Moneta, VA

Psychology - Marine Corps
'Keck and Bulls'



Paul M. Keddell, II
Poquoson, VA

History - Air Force

Josh, Charles, Stu and Matt couldn't ask for better dykes. Definitely have lost more friends then I have ended up with. Nick you're my only co-dyke, say whats up to sis. Greenfien, corkdawg-smile, don't be so mad at the world. Dunn-nightwalker, cow-one word, "institutionalized." 214, 314 they ain't qutin. Yakaboo and Chuck, big red what? I heard there was a hit and run earlier, anyone seen Hitch? Hey, Ziadeh engineers are tight. Ward-T-bear, Kearney-L'il bro. Plecha your still up? Craig straight thugin it. Adam wheres the gym? Lips, Lipari baby, CSR get dressed the President is speaking, tell me about your dream some other time, Pkay away. Dirty, Dirty, Dirty. Dixson, witty as they come, always split everything right down the line. "More Wooork" WW3 4 life. Never a dull moment in C-25. Supporting staff "Kevin" thank you. Rats you all made life easy this year, Rob (feelin any pain), Dave (what was that?), what more could you ask for from the Trimble twins. Tony bustin your balls was all in good fun. Sheets- the licorice mystery man, the gamer, you look after you co-dykes. Couldn't have asked for a better surprise in my last semester, thanks Daryn you're my scary dawg. Mom and Dad thanks for making it easy on me here, Mary swing for the fences, you're the best. C-25 Concourse Crusaders ride on...

My fondest memories of VMI are those that I pull from the ethereal area just before sleep, and right after consciousness. They are ones that were frighteningly interrupted by the concussion of a Works Bomb in the courtyard at the wee hours of the morning as a rat. This call to arms was to be my destiny for my years as an inhabitant of the old (and best) barracks. Never has there been such a joyous noise. Rats: keep the dream alive.
I have truly achieved incredible highs with a little help from my friends. My class of peers at one of the greater institutions in America felt it fit for me to represent them as whole: an honor I am still basking in, and one that I would never trade. The bonds I have made while inside these walls will never be forgotten, and always a source of pride no matter the situation. To whom do I owe the gratitude: To God: thanks for the strength. To the class: we have subjugated all it means to be the best and kicked ass every step of the way. To Hardchargin' : you are the finest group of people in the world. To all those who couldn't be here: You still are. To my dyke: Thanks for the map. To my family and lady: thanks for everything (all that I know). To the Dudes!: congratulations on four years of unstoppable domination; cheers to a lifetime more of them.

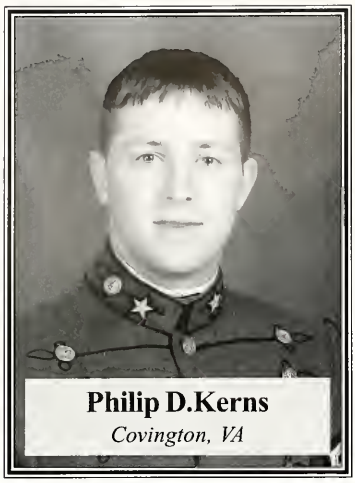
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and who's coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Elected GC Historian, Hotel RDC elect, first class private, the greatest has been there ever will be, Founder Alpha Sigma Sigma, leader, old barracks chapter of the Velver Dicks, director of the Hooah-Hall Show. Member VMI Rugby Football Club, Racquetball club.

Dyke Line
2000 - Steward Staton
2006 - Jared Sheets, Robert Trimble

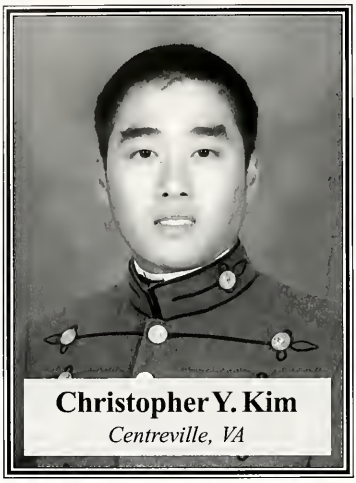
Dyke Line
2000 - Justin Dodge
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Paul DeRose
2006 -



Philip D.Kerns
Covington, VA

English - Army



Christopher Y. Kim
Centreville, VA

Economics & Business - Navy

Sungmin Kim
Shorewood, IL

Civil Engineering -Navy

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

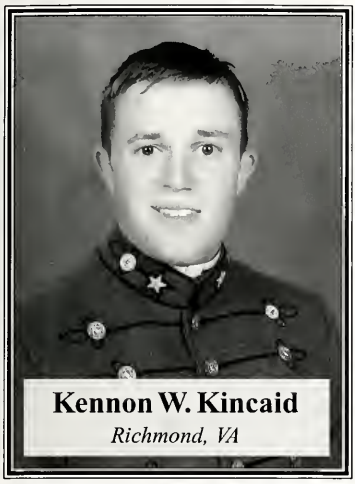
First and foremost, much love goes out to my parents, my sister and God for their undying sacrifices and support to get me where I am today. To my brothers, Ado, Puppy, Bang Bang, G-Mat, Nick, DaZhang, Ed-D, Chazz, Vin, Choi, Brandon "Rock Star" Waltrip, Sayko, who could've have predicted we'd be standing where we are today? Though a year apart from you guys made me wake up, I came back to the I with open arms waiting for me, I'll never forget that, ever…Forever, you all will be a part of my life, in a couple of months we'll depart from this place and go on in our own separate ways, endure inevitable hardship, and we wont have the comfort of each other's presence to bring us back up. The I has meant a lot of things to us, within these walls of barracks, maybe unconsciously we learned Courage, Love, Pain, Perseverance, and most of all Loyalty. The daily grind tried to break us, but the inner circle never broke. Memories…I'll take with me the memories of great times and bad, who can forget Cocoa Beach? N.E.B. Drinking Team? Who can forget when one of our own showed us the ultimate example of sacrifice and LOYALTY. I'll close this chapter in my life with words from a great poet, Dave Matthews-"I will go in this way, and find my own way out" Love to my brothers…for life. Socrates said the life unexamined is not worth living.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Kenneth Wing
2006 -

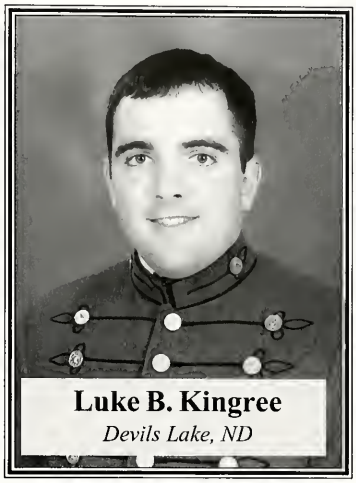
Dyke Line
2000 - Bum Ho Kim
2006 - Chris Chinn

Dyke Line
2000 - Charles Boyer
2006 -



Kennon W. Kincaid
Richmond, VA

International Studies - Army



Luke B. Kingree
Devils Lake, ND

International Studies - Army

Ryan T. King
Greenville, Pa

International Studies - Marine Corps

As my four years come to an end I am forced to realize that I have learned much. VMI has opened many doors, both professionally and academically. Four years ago I never thought I would or could have accomplished all I have. I leave this place with some fond memories and some great friends. I would like to thank all of my roommates T.J., Aaron, Andy, Chip, Rob and Mike Haag for being there through the good and bad times (couldn't have survived without you guys). To all of my true friends – thanks guys, you all know who you are. Mom, Dad, Ben and Wren – thanks for the countless prayers and your enduring love and support. I couldn't have done any of it without you all. I would also like to thank VMI for making it so easy to study abroad; I can't imagine how I would have survived this place had I not. To my dykes (rats) Andrew Upshaw and Tyler Monger – thanks for all the laughs and trying to keep me out of trouble, take care and good luck. Well that's all I have. I hope that one day I'll learn to appreciate this place even more. But, I really hope and pray that VMI is not a microcosm of the rest of our lives.

I can't count how many times I ran through W&L wishing that I had taken the offer to go to their school. But then again, where else could I live a life of misery and come out the other end feeling good about it? Four long years of disappointment and pain have made me stronger and more determined to live the rest of my life, on my terms, as best I can. Here, I figured out who I am and learned what kind of man I never want to be. From the most terrible examples of leadership, I saw firsthand what bureaucracy and limitless power can do to small-minded people. Still, I kept my optimism and enthusiasm for life, and to never give up hope and never give in to anger, fear, bitterness or resentment is the key to enduring VMI and life in general. It's a hard path to follow, but definitely the higher one. John, Tom, Chris and the people in '06 – remember that and remember this: always be true to yourself. Keep smiling and stick with it. You'll learn many hard lessons, but it's worth it. To my BRs – it's been a long road, and I couldn't have made it without you. We have some great memories, and I love you all. Emily – we had some great times and I wish you the best. Dad – I know you're watching; I won't let you down.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

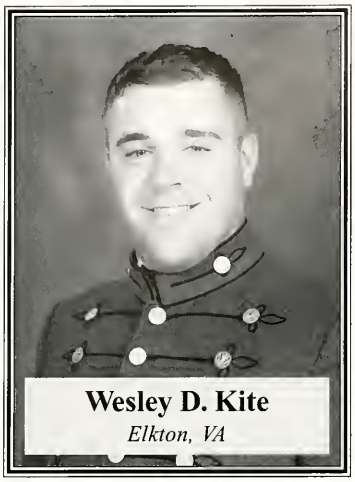
OGA President, Pre-Law Society President, 1st Class Private

Cpl 3; Sgt 2; Pvt 4,1; Prelaw Society 3,2,1; Venture Crew 1; Pyro Club 4; Mad Amoeba Bomber 4, 1; Watermelon Assassin 3; Alcohol #9 Club 2; W&L Block Running and Frat Crashing Crew 3; Generally Apathetic 2, 1

Dyke Line
2000 - Justin Cole
2006 - Andrew Upshaw, Tyler Monger

Dyke Line
2000 - Michael Mule
2006 - John Kennedy

Dyke Line
2000 - Jeffrey Neal
2006 -

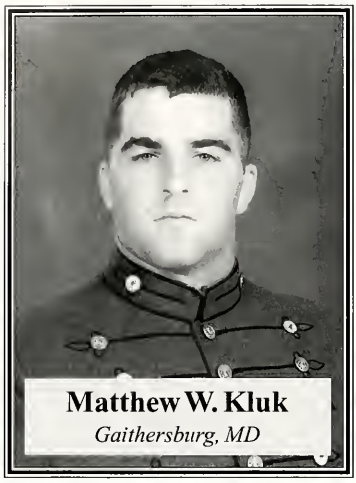


Wesley D. Kite
Elkton, VA

Economics & Business - Army

"Ric in the Box" "Wes Kiiiiiiiiiitttttttttttteeeeee" "WC"

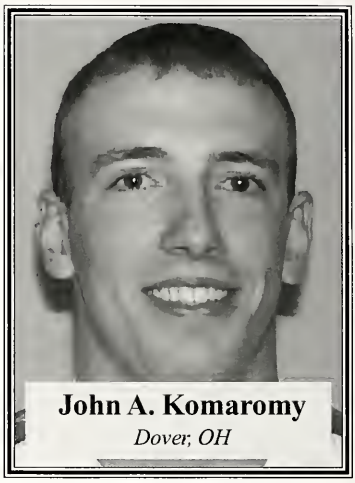
I would first like to thank my Lord Jesus for all his mercy, grace, and power without whom I would never have been able to make it this far. Mom, Dad, Rob, Cam, and my love; Diana...I love you all very much and thank you for the support you have given me. Don: it has been real man. It is going to be weird when we are finally forced apart, but we have made some great memories (WC/CB, first class party, bro Tross, Hooters, "Dude I'm ____ Drunk",etc.) Drewfy: What are we going to do without you around to make us laugh? Stay strong bro and all will work for the good of those who love him. Tate: Keep your faith and you are really going to change lives for Christ. Goon: Best of luck at FSU and try not to party too hard without someone to watch you. C-29,30,31: Guys it has been real living near all of you. From Phil and Tripper's fun in the wall locker to Andy riding the floor buffer to the jousting tournament to NCAA Football. To the football team: Believe and it will happen. CB: Thank you so much for all the help, you will be missed. Rats: Keep your grades up and stay out of trouble. Finally, remember to always look to Christ for all your needs and to thank him for what he has provided. KEEP THE FAITH. Philippians 4:13/John 3:16/Romans 8:28. GOD BLESS!



Matthew W. Kluk
Gaithersburg, MD

Biology - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



John A. Komaromy
Dover, OH

History - Army

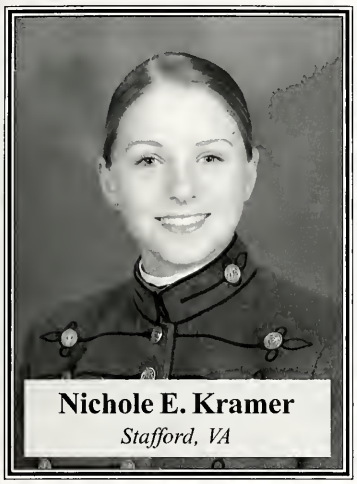
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Football, Private, Title IX, NCAA 2003 Dynasty (2 time National Champion, Madden 2003)

Dyke Line
2000 - Charles Boyer
2006 - Jonathan Wilson, Keri Berton

Dyke Line
2000 - Joseph Nester
2006 - Eugene King, Colleen Logan

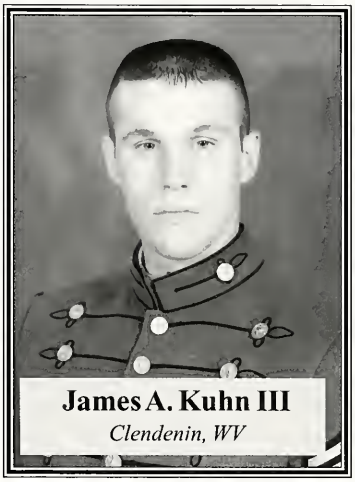
Dyke Line
2000 - Joshua Petry
2006 - John Shillingburg



Nichole E. Kramer
Stafford, VA

History - Marine Corps

After 4 years, I've learned that everyone takes away something different from this place. I guess for me, VMI has been an experience on what not to do and who not to be and especially how to handle constantly being surrounded by things and people that just want to bring you down and learning how to succeed through it all. I don't care what anyone else complains about, I beat the damn place and that's all that matters to me!! Of course, I couldn't have done it without my biggest fans. Mom, Dad, Grandma and Papa: thanks for putting up with my whining and paying for all those Walmart trips. Creeker/Hottie Corporal: Who knew? I guess there really is a reason for everything. Jenny and Lara: I think we learned entirely too much about each other the past couple years! Ha! I'll miss you two! Joe aka "Jill": Be easy! Ha Best of luck and make what you can out of your next three years. It's all up to you, just remember to do things right the first time so you don't have to waste time fixing mistakes. Chris: stay away from trench coats…you are quite the social butterfly now! Barold: You are never driving my car. Tom, Katy, and Big Bird: Keep on keepin on, little ones! To everyone else that kept me busy on IM during the late nights: check ya'll latah!

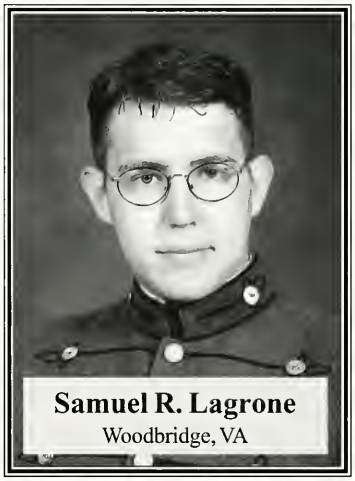


James A. Kuhn III
Clendenin, WV

Mechanical Engineering - Navy
Jim

Ten years. That's how long I feel that I've been here. Like many, I will not miss the gray sky, standing inspection on cold winter mornings, or returning every August to suffer the decisions of oblivious task forces. But I already miss many of the good people, which include the majority of our dedicated faculty.

I found the Lord a mere three weeks into the ratline, and I just want everyone to know that every experience afterward - both in and out of school - has been colored with an inexorable joy, regardless of the many difficult circumstances as a cadet or in life. To those brothers and sisters whom I found in Bible studies, OCF retreats or elsewhere, I thank you for sharpening me as iron.
The three upper class years exist in my memory now as only snapshots, moments that will undoubtedly recede from clarity as my years advance, so that I might come back in 50 years and steadfastly believe that these troubled years were carefree and short. Ah well – I go now into the "real world," where you do your own laundry and friends are not always a few feet down the stoop. To those who would come after me, I say don't let VMI defeat you. And if it does, you always have a friend to turn to



Samuel R. Lagrone
Woodbridge, VA

English - Army

As this is written, the Montreal Expos still exist as a professional baseball team. And in so many ways, Sam LaGrone reminds me of Le Stade Olympique, the home field of the Expos: big, in need of people, slightly foreign, the butt of many jokes, the butt of many jokes from slightly foreign people. And Empty. Sam was always Sam. He was never "Bucko" or "High-tone" or "Cheesecake." He was never even "Hey You." He did try to call himself "Richard" once. But that was just a weak attempt to convince us that he: 1) was bipolar. 2) could write in the third person. 3) wanted a nickname. But we kept him around. Actually, we wanted him around. Sam exuded energy and cheer through a veneer of lonesomeness. He would look like a grumpy, out-of-work clown. But he, oddly enough, thrived on people _ people who also loved emo. An award-winning writer, Sam could pick apart the interface of the various cliques at VMI and at Washington & Lee. And he was the soul of an amazing band called The World's Greatest Lovers. His shows would draw women from states all over the country. Even Georgia. Sadly, however, when the show was over, Sam would be like Le Stade Olympique: big, empty, alone. Well, not that

English Society, Timmons Gentry Music Society, BOMB, Big Sister, cadet waiter, STP counselor, Semper Fi Society, Bulldog, Den Mother, Club Pentapoom VP, Track and Field

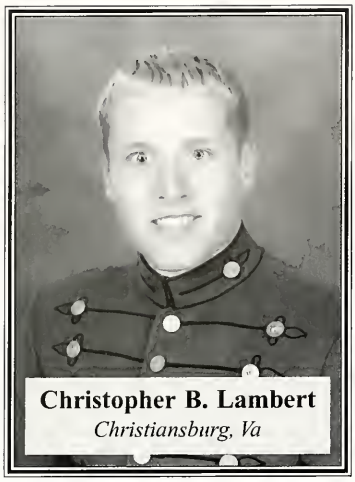
Dyke Line
2000 - Chad Brady
2006 - Joe GIll, Chris Rogers, Barry McCord

Bomb 1; Club Soccer 2, Captain 1; Drama Club 1; Glee Club 4, 3, President 2, 1; Japanese Club 1; Model Arab League 1; ; Preston Library Cadet Assistant 2, 1; Religious Affairs Committee 3, Secretary 2, VP 1; Slemp Preservation Society 4, 3, 2, 1; Society of Physics Students 4, Treasurer 3, VP 2; Tae Kwon Do Team 4, 3, 2, 1.

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Tim Stover, Brad Bascope

Winning Awards, Rugby

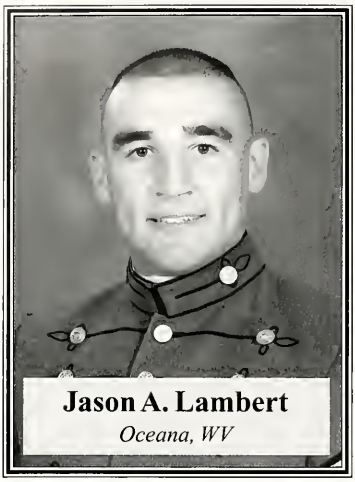
Dyke Line
2000 - Jeffrey Neal
2006 - Christian Brown



Christopher B. Lambert
Christiansburg, Va

International Studies - Army

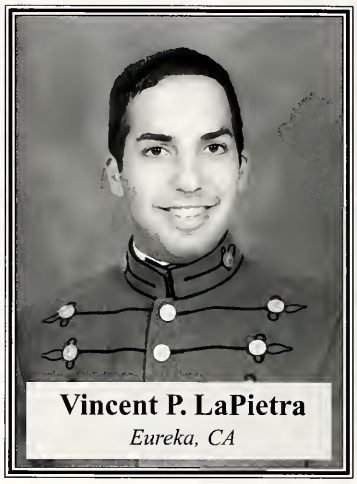
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



Jason A. Lambert
Oceana, WV

Psychology - Marine Corps

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



Vincent P. LaPietra
Eureka, CA

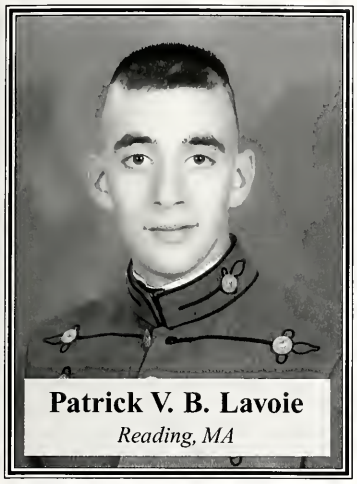
History - Army

"The Dude abides" - The Dude

Dyke Line
2000 - Lei Wang
2006 - Bart F. Payne

Dyke Line
2000 - David Epperly
2006 - Blake Faller, Kevin Farkas

Dyke Line
2000 - Paul Webber
2006 - Phillip Lundberg

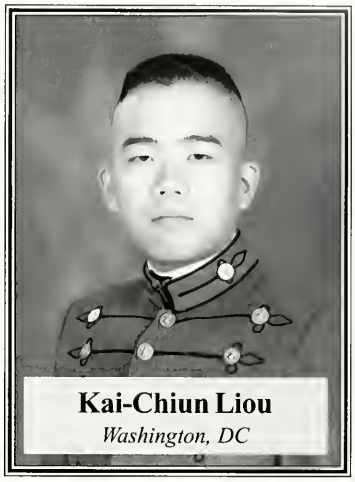


Patrick V. B. Lavoie
Reading, MA

International Studies - Marine Corps

Kuo-Chiun Liang
Northridge, CA

Computer Science - Army



Kai-Chiun Liou
Washington, DC

Mechanical Engineering - Air Force

Four years ago I thought the challenge of VMI would end in seven months; apparently the admissions office forgot to tell me otherwise, but I've made it. I have to thank my family because without them I would never have graduated. You have put up with all my anger and whining and just rolled with it, and I owe you a lot more than thanks for that. Aunt Kathy, Sue, Nicholas, Thomas, John-Paul, Matthew, Megan, Dad and most importantly Mom thanks for keeping me on the right path. There have been times when I wanted to give up but you scared me too much, thanks. I owe thanks to you Brandon for reminding me why I want to be a Marine Officer and giving me advice on how to be the best officer I can. Speers I won't forget our many crazy exploits or you, thanks. I will see you both in the fleet. Jared and Pete thanks for putting up with me. James and Prodg you guys were great rats and I wish you the best of luck; see you in 3. Last, but not least Megan thanks for making me the happiest I've ever been. Its been hard at times because of the distance and the nature of the "I" but you have stuck with me. I am so lucky to have been able to share the past two years with you, I just can't wait to share many more.

Semper Fi

Before we leave the "I" I would like to thank my dad, mom, and my sister even though I was fighting with them about not coming to the "I." They supported me all four years. I'm lucky to have **Dale Griffin**, **Matt Smith**, and **Alex Rizzato** as my RAT roommates, which made my RAT year easier to go through. One name must be mentioned, **Nick Work**, my roommate since third class year. As much as I was annoyed by Dale and Nick picking on me, I love them to death. Nick is the man of his principles and I know he'll be there for me no matter what. Not to mention my Asian brothers, **Pang Tu** and **Chris Kim**. There may be fights between us now and then but the bond between all of us will never break. It is faith I shall say that brought us together and it is the chain between all of us that no one can take away. There are so much memories here and I know I will remember them for the rest of my life. I had my ups and downs here, it'll take up 10 pages if I list them out, but most importantly is that you all were there for me. Thank you! One phrase to sum all these, "Without friends, this place is nothing." (G-Matt) >>Kuo Ruey "Puppy" Liang is by far the ideal friend and brother. His passion and dependiblity as a friend surpasses any expectation an idividual could have and for that I'm greatful. Thank you for everything!
-Nick (Your White Boy)

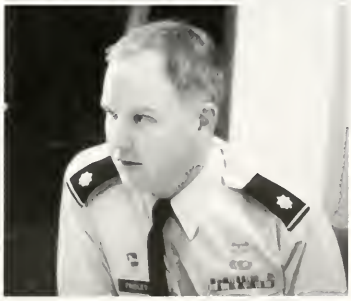
Up to now, it is still hard for me to believethat I already stayed in US for 4 years and I am going to graduate from VMI. All my memory about our rat year is still clear to me. In the past 4 years, I did learn a lot about life from VMI. No matter English, American Culture, Academic work..everything, I can feel more comfortable with all of them now. Anyway, this memory of the past 4 years will be the most impressive memory in my entire life because it did broaden my view of the whole world. Thank you, the Institue, I did appreciate what have you brought to me. Also, I would like to say thank you to my rats, CHANG and JIN, you two are the best rats ever!! You guys are perfect!!! Keep the high standard that I have told you guys. If you guys have time, join the "1000" club(1000 push-ups every day), I will be happy to see that. Besides, take care of yourselves and be good. I wish you all have a happy and safe life for the rest of your cadetship in VMI.

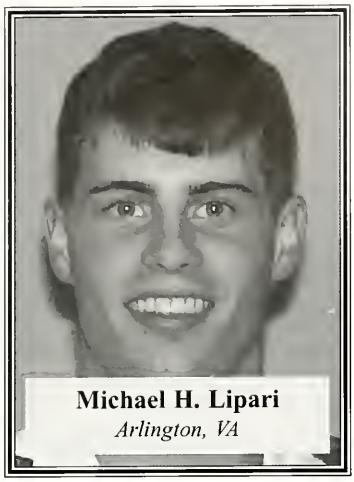
Semper Fidelis Society Vice President, '01-'03; Rat Challenge CIC, '02-'03; Golf Company 1st Platoon lt., Spring '03; Golf Company 1st class private, Fall '02; Battalion Color Sargeant, '01-'02; Member Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society;

Dyke Line
2000 - Matthew Black
2006 - James White, Matthew Neundorfer

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Brandon Rocker

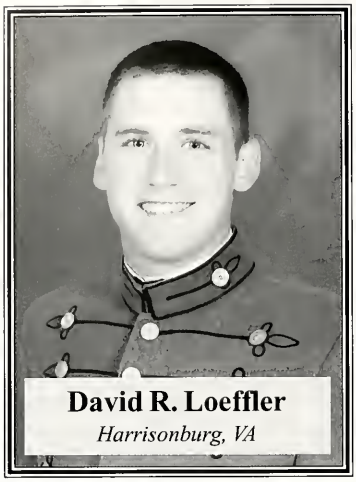
Dyke Line
2000 - Chwan-Shing Pan
2006 -Han-Lung Jin, Wei-Ying Chang





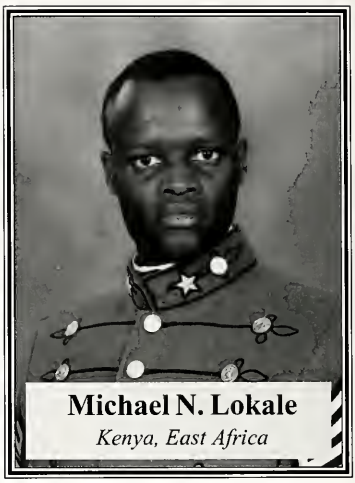
Michael H. Lipari
Arlington, VA

Economics & Business - Army



David R. Loeffler
Harrisonburg, VA

History - Army



Michael N. Lokale
Kenya, East Africa

Biology - Air Force

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

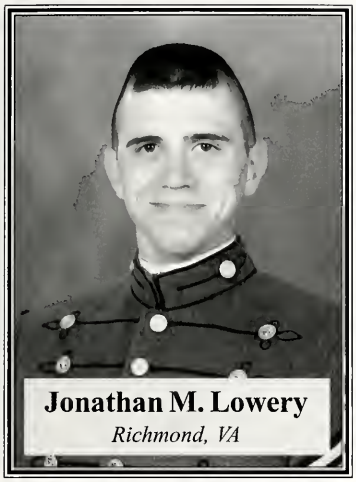
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

VMI has been the most unique blessing that God granted me. It has wrenched every fiber in the fabric of my character. Everyday was tough but I found satisfaction in giving my best daily. VMI has educated, trained and rebuked us all, and in so doing has inspired us to sow the seed to serve us all our days. I have enjoyed being in the company of imminent leaders of this nation and the world. Our generation must gracefully take its turn in bearing the weight of government in thought, word and deed. Thanks to General Michael Bozeman for believing in my potential. Thanks to my professors for a first class ducation. Thanks to Trudy Oliver, my American mother. Thanks to Ron Vaughns and Seth Ostlund, my closest acquaintances. And to Alia Hamad my awesome Co-Dyke! Thanks to my rats Jeff, Chris and Andrea. It was an honor and joy being the Captain of the Cross Country and Track teams. For forming an efficient working nucleus, I thank my S-6 staff. God bless the Corps. Rise above the complaining. Set your priorities and stick to them. Embrace change for it is the solitary constant element in life. However, guard all our traditions jealously. If you respect others, they will return the gesture. Your success here is measured by what you do as a person, not as a class or regiment. Find your own rhythm. Wherever you go, carry with you, the great name of VMI.

Dyke Line
2000 - Lei Wang
2006 - Bart F. Payne

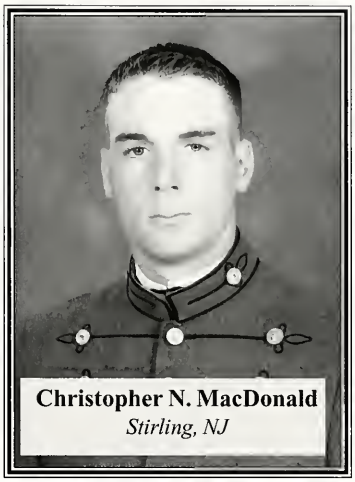
Dyke Line
2000 - David Epperly
2006 - Blake Faller, Kevin Farkas

Dyke Line
2000 - Benjamin Murray
2006 - Jeff Bennett, Andrea McCain



Jonathan M. Lowery
Richmond, VA

History - Marine Corps



Christopher N. MacDonald
Stirling, NJ

International Studies - Marine Corps

Mario Majetic
Zagreb, Croatia

Computer Science - Army

"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is Gain." – Philippians 1:21
And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong. -2 Corinthians 12:9-10
"…I made a solemn dedication of myself to God… giving up myself, and all that I had to God; to be for the future in no respect my own to act as one that had no right to himself, in any respect. And solemnly vowed to take God for my whole portion and felicity, looking on nothing else as any part of my happiness, nor acting as if it were: and His law for the constant rule of my obedience, engaging to fight with all my might against the word, the flesh and the devil, to the end of my life"- Jonathan Edwards

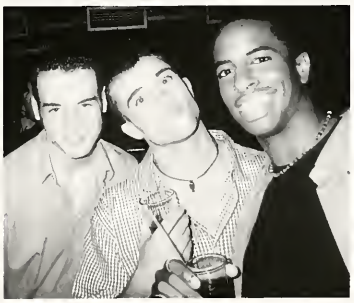
"We sleep safely in our beds because rough men stand ready in the night to visit violence on those who would do us harm."- George Orwell

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

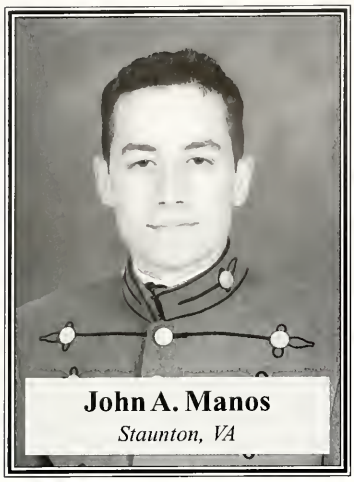
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and who's coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Jon Glasscock, Bill Keller

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 -

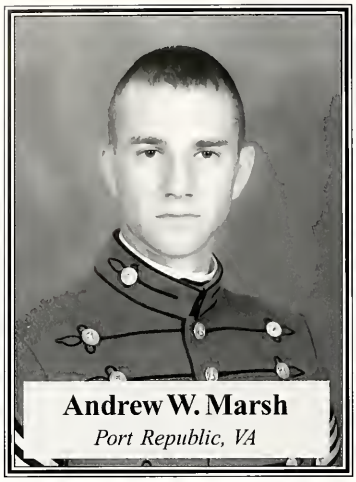


Dyke Line
2000 - Joseph Odok
2006 -



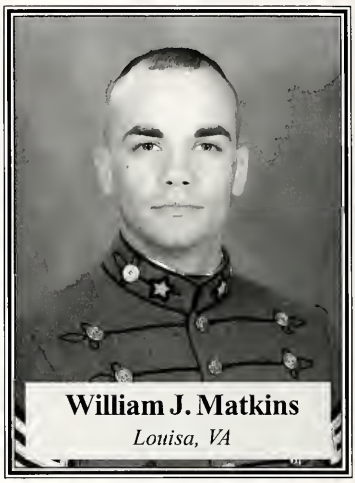
John A. Manos
Staunton, VA

Economics & Business - Army



Andrew W. Marsh
Port Republic, VA

English - Army
Terry, Drewfy



William J. Matkins
Louisa, VA

History - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

I dunno where to start, because I honestly don't want it to end. These past four years here have been filled with highs and lows. But the one constant within barracks, the thing you could always rely on, were the guys. What can I say? Jon, Seth, Wes, and Donny…I couldn't have been blessed with a better group of roommates. You guys stuck with me through it all…TERRY!! To all the Concourse boys of Echo and Delta, thanks for the memories. Never forget the Razor Scooter jousting, broken windows, tiles, etc., NCAA Football, Phil's panties, and so much more. Nate Smith, for being such a loyal friend through it all. Derek Brown, I am gonna miss ya bro, been with me since STP through thick and thin. Danny Whitehall, that laugh and those skills, just tryin' to be like you! Jonny Rios, it's been a joy to see you grow in our Lord and Savior over the years, thanks for sharing time in the Word. Last but never least, the soccer team. Jonny, Mark, Danny, Pat, Pat, TJ, Dan C, (including underclassmen!). You guys have been true brothers, and I will miss each of you tremendously. Thank you for letting me pretend to be a soccer player, and thanks for the brotherhood - Prov. 3:5,6. I will be praying for you all! Everyone else! Been a long, rocky, but sweet 4 years…Godspeed in all that you do and may we all be reunited in His glory on down the road.

What did I learn in my four torturous years at the Institute? That is a very good question which leaves me pondering the answer in deep contemplation. Let's see, first, I learned how to become a better drinker- i.e., how to drink more. Second, I learned how to drink under any circumstances and for any reason. Third and most importantly, I learned that drinking at VMI was a necessary factor for me to keep my sanity amongst the weekly rigors and chicken stuff. On a more serious note and at the individual and class level, what I really learned was the importance of brotherhood and camaraderie, and how men form a brotherly bond when faced with adverse conditions. Ultimately, not taking anything away from the fine scholarly programs, I learned how to be a leader, which is definitely the strongest aspect of VMI. Without the support of my family, who has always been there when I asked them to be, this experience would have been much more difficult. On to the next step. Good Hunting to my Marines, and God Bless and Good Luck to all.

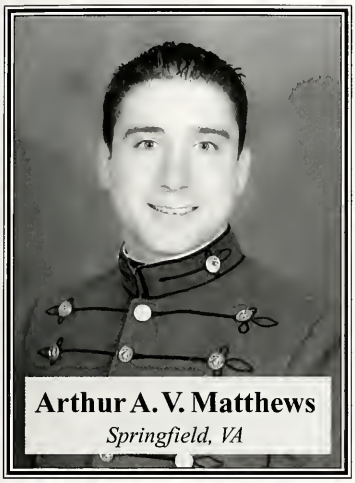
Thank you,

Joe Matkins

Dyke Line
2000 - Samuel McClure
2006 -

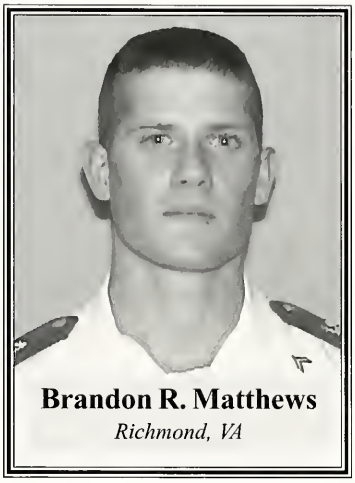
Dyke Line
2000 - Daniel Graham
2006 -Frank Dolberry, Robert Frazier

Dyke Line
2000 - Jason Rasch
2006 - Eric Bliss



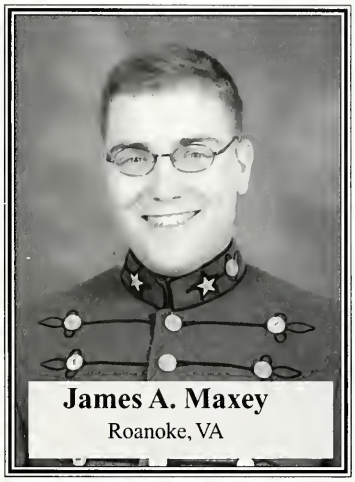
Arthur A. V. Matthews
Springfield, VA

Economics & Business - Air Force
Bubba



Brandon R. Matthews
Richmond, VA

History - Marine Corps



James A. Maxey
Roanoke, VA

Biology - Army

Well, lets see where to begin. I think to say that I am not graduating this year would be the best place to start. I am proud of my class and the accomphishments we have made. I only wish I could be there to walk across the staqge with ya'll.

My roommates - Jim Kuhn, Dermot Gavin and Doug Warner. You guys are great and I don't think I could have had a better 1st class year. Dermot, you and I were the only privates and it was hard to keep the rankers in check but we did a good job. It's too bad my rats didn't follow suit. I still can't believe you're going in the Army, Dermot. What in the world were you thinking? Oh well. Jim, you kept the room interesting. Well at least for me you did. Doug, don't worry about the Army, we all know the Hammer sucks and so does the Army dep.t. Go Air Force.

As for me, after this next year, I 'm gonna try and make it as a pilot. If not t hen a linguist in Arabic. If that doesn't work out then I'll be a garbage man. They make good money. I'm just kidding mom. I could've never made it to this year without you mom, I love you so much and I would do anything for you.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Where do I begin, it has been a long road and definitely one less traveled. However I have no regrets and I am sure I have met the most powerful friends of my life. Not many people can say they have hovered over a pool of sweat, arms shaking violently and on the verge of passing out, with their very best friends. We tried our best to represent the Institute. And we were heard from, even if only by a few open ears.

To my roommates – Will, Cliff, & Shawn. We had a good time and I think you guys made this final sprint to the finish a little more fun. We had a good mix of hardcore and laid back. We kept each other sane and sometimes drove each other insane. I would not have wanted it any other way.

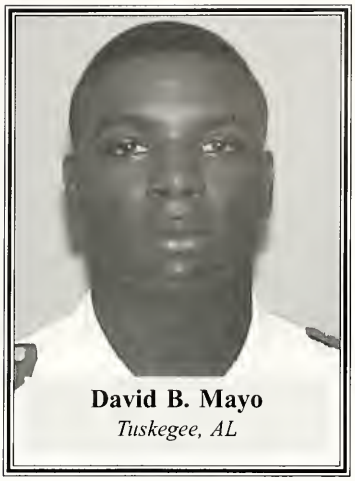
To my Rat – Anthony, you exceeded my expectations and I am extremely proud of you. You will do great things for this school and for the world on the whole. To rest of my Rats, you guys were a great addition to the spirit of our room (OP-130). And you will all be great. Stay up and keep a positive attitude, it will be over before you know it.

Hotel Company – Nothing really has to be said, but you guys are my second family. Good luck!!! "In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about Life: IT GOES ON"
Robert Frost

Dyke Line
2000 - Charles Pramawat
2006 - Jeremy Hefner, Chris Back

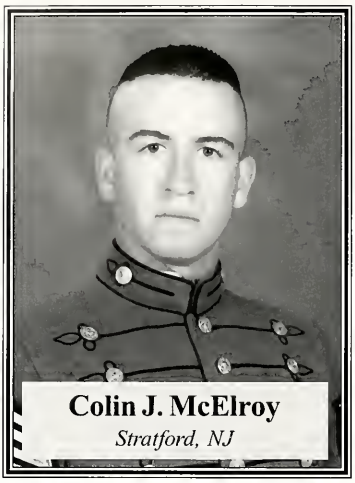
Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Peter Miller
2006 -Anthony Tolomeao, Mary Osborne



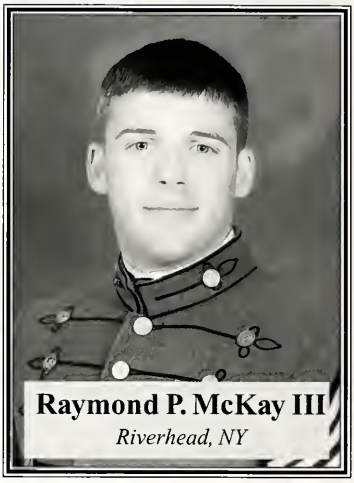
David B. Mayo
Tuskegee, AL

Mechanical Engineering - Army



Colin J. McElroy
Stratford, NJ

History - Army
Mac



Raymond P. McKay III
Riverhead, NY

International Studies - Coast Guard

What is there to say about Dave Mayo? Quiet, intelligent, militaristically proficient, he's standing tall on every leg of that stool they keep telling us about here. Dave has a quiet way of making sharp points. For example, when we were rats, and everyone was getting caught up in the hoopla of who was or was not going to be a corporal the following year, Dave quipped: "man everyone here...making such a big deal about rank. All that is, is just takin' roll". That still tops one of my all-time favorite quotations, up there with Voltaire and Churchill for quotables. I hate having to sit down and write about Dave because he's one of those guys who is just so remarkable on every level, words can't even come close to capturing the essence of Dave Mayo. He was, and always will be, one of the finest cadets to have strained under "You May Be Whatever You Resolve To Be". Dave resolved long ago to be great, and as of yet he hasn't disappointed.

VMI has certainly been an "interesting" 4 years, with the last being a bit more "interesting". To think.....I even thought about leaving this place a few times.....I wonder why? Anyway, it has been worth it in the end and I want to thank all those who have helped me along the way. Mom, I certainly couldn't have done it without your financial and moral support. Kelley, you have been there with me for every step of the way for the last two years and you have brought me out of the pits of despair on countless occasions. To Greg (who is off doing "hooah" stuff) and Steve, you guys were great friends and roommates from our first year until now. And to my Rats, you guys were great and my shoes always set the example.

Raymond McKay came to the venerable Virginia Military Institute in the summer of '99. He was living with then Matt "Woman Hater" Bartles, Nate "I'm to sexy for my uniform" Smith and Pierre "Warlord" Ngankue. With much remorse (and later regret) he moved in with Danny "Demo Sponge" and later Rob "Consumosourous" McLean and Matt "I'll slap you" Keck. He also had a brief stint with What's eating Jason Boncher and Evan "Mad Scientist" Szymanski. His second class year he and Mr. McLean were heinously and wrongly convicted of the consumption of alcoholic libations in barracks. These citizen- soldiers endured their punishment with great stoicism and became role models for other cadets to follow. His favorite pastimes included testing out various lotions for their viscosity, testing the limits of the blue bible, and climbing the hill of academia. He also enjoyed working diligently as a member of the S-1 staff. His contributions to the Institute while charged with this task were invaluable and shall endure for years to come. Mr. McKay plans to become an Officer in the United States Coast Guard where he will continue to serve his country by playing X-Box and continue to be generally worthless. We can all sleep better at night knowing that Raymond will be defending our coasts for years to come.

Rat Challenge 3,2; 1st Platoon Sgt, 2; 'Mayovator' 4,3,2,1; Operation Iraqi Freedom 1

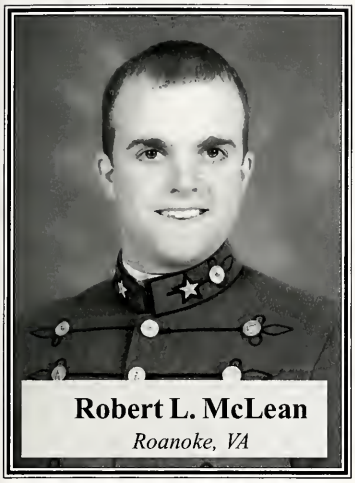
Band Company Cadre, Ranger Company, Civil War Band,Civil War Roundtable

Tool bag in disguise3,2,1; under CIA investigation 4,3,2,1,; Model Arab League 1; Trident Society 4,3; A-1 club 2

Dyke Line
2000 - Eric Adams
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Nhan Nguyen
2006 -Bradford, Rahl, Ihnen

Dyke Line
2000 - Alec McMorris
2006 - James Woodard, Johnny Bender

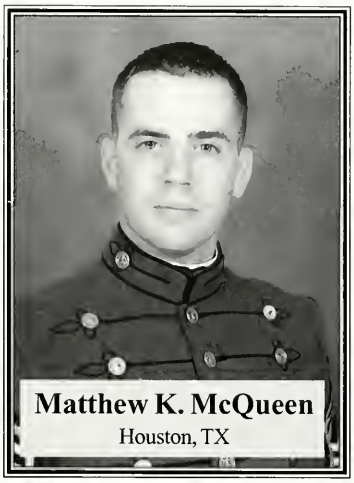


Robert L. McLean
Roanoke, VA

Economics & Business - Army
Rob, Bob, Robstien, Le Miserob

Daniel M. McNair
Cordova, TN

Economics & Business - Army



Matthew K. McQueen
Houston, TX

International Studies - Army
Fuu, McQueer, Rooster

Well, what could I possibly say to sum up such an experience?? I'll start by thanking some people. First and foremost, God, for making all this possible. On the mortal side, Mom and Dad, for being my one true source of strength through all this. Thanks for always being there for my friends and I, even through the rough times. Big thanks to, Ray, Matt, and Danny, the best roomies ever. And finally to the rest of you guys who I had the privilege to call my friends (you know who you are), thanks for the good times. It took me four years to figure out what the word "Brother Rat" truly means. Now that I have, I can safely say that I won't forget any of you. Now a few words of advice to the guys I leave behind: Don't be bitter, it'll be over soon. Don't take yourself too seriously and don't sell out or in the end you're just somebody's tool. Remember the important things here: your friends, your grades, and your sense of humor.
As our beloved Institute is turned upside down by powers greater than any of us; as our cherished systems are once and for all destroyed by the cancer of political correctness; just remember one thing. No matter what the future holds for VMI, the walls of this place will always be covered by the invisible paint of OUR times TOGETHER, good and bad, which have made us who we are today.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and who's coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Reflecting on the years I've spent within these walls, I question it all. The discreet ambitions of those who surround us, and the righteous who have constantly gone unnoticed. I am grateful for the opportunity to attend and remain four years at a place where power, self-interest, and clout is as prevalent as any other college forcing me to experience emotions, decisions, and closure that never before existed for me. The understanding of the intentions of others is the one developed attribute that I do truly regret possessing. It is not how the hypocrisy within the Corps, the Admin, and those 'associated' with the Institute eat away at ones conscious but the complacent attitude for which it is executed is what is disturbing. I have found myself at the 'I' but at the same time I have lost myself. Therefore I am forced to Damn the 'I' while hailing it as well. I came with a dream that was strengthened my Rat year, that dream, shared by others, is only but a whisper today. I am troubled by it, but accept it.
Mom and Dad, you've allowed me to achieve this, I will never be able to express my full gratitude towards you two. You have done more than you will ever know. Cam/Tyler, what can I say. You got me here whether you know it or not. From the Court to the Concourse, you know who you are. Keep the Faith. God is Great. I'll see you on the other side. "Rock On"

CIG: 3,2,1(Chairman); Academic Stars 3,2,1
Conduct Pro 2,1; Excess Demerits 3,2,1
Queen Helene Appreciation Society 3,2,1

HC-1,2 Pros. ;Cadre-1 E CO,2 E Ops,3 E Cpl ;Beta Nu-1,2,3; CWRT-1,2,3,4 ;Texas Club-1,2,3,4 ;Sack Racer-3,4

Dyke Line
2000 -Matt Baggwell
2006 - MIA

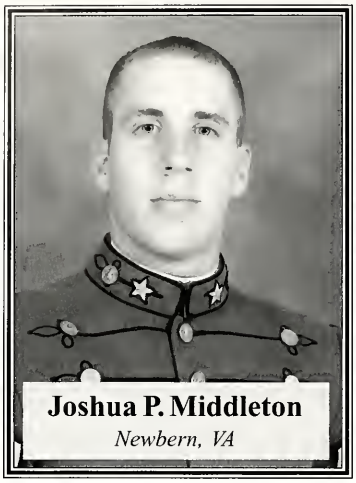
Dyke Line
2000 - Liam Connor
2006 - Benjamin Chovanec

Dyke Line
2000 - James Boatright
2006 -Dane Elles

Michael T. Meredith
Norfolk, VA

Economics & Business - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



Joshua P. Middleton
Newbern, VA

History - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Marco A. Midence

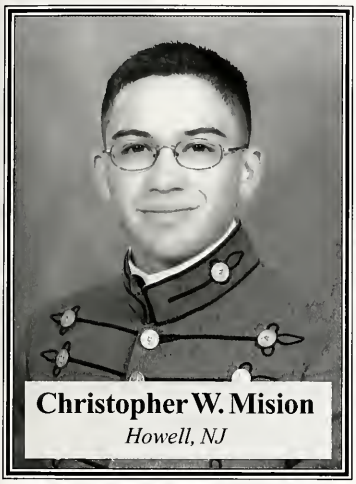
Civil Engineering - Marine Corps

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Parker Thurman

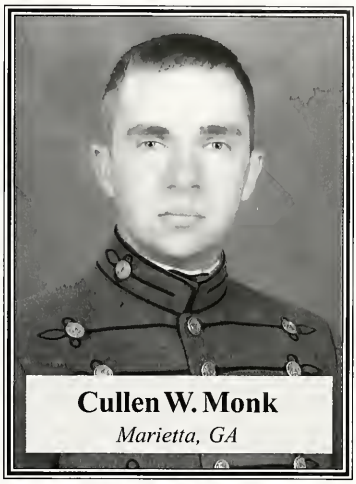
Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Haney
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Luis Gonzalez
2006 -



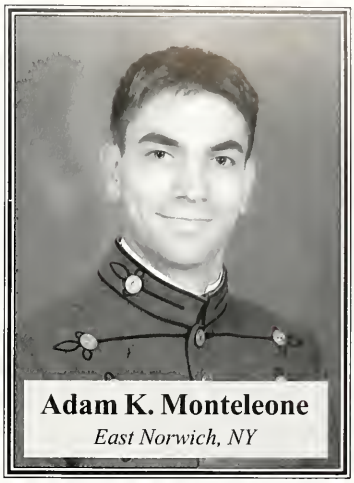
Christopher W. Mision
Howell, NJ

Chemistry - Army



Cullen W. Monk
Marietta, GA

History - Army



Adam K. Monteleone
East Norwich, NY

Computer Science - Army

I have been sitting here for the lat 30 minutes trying to think of what to write. As with everything else, I put this off thinking it would be easy. Now that the time has come, my mind keeps wandering back to all the good times (and the bad) from the last four years. I've thought about our insane first week here and the wonderful feeeling I had on that cold February day at McKethan Park, as my dyke asked me, "What class are you?" There were the endless nights of pizza and studying for Organic tests 3rd class year with Heidi and Jason. There were the many times I came back to my room to find half my food gone, and realized Mel had rummaged through it. There were those amazing five days of Ring Figure that I will never forget. The trip to the Citadel with Doug, James, and Dermot was a great time. There were all the times I wrestled Jon in the room (and lost with flying colors). To Mom and Dad, Thank you for everything you have given me. I love you. To Allyn - thanks for being the voice of logic. To Erin an Jill -wait a few years and you'll be graduating from college as well. To my roommates and all my friends - it was each of you tht kep me going these last four years. I hope we stay in touch. I wish the best of luck to you all. Stay safe through the journeys ahead. To God - Thank you.

Well, my VMI experience is almost over, Thank God. I can't say it was all bad…the numerous trips to the bars uptown, or down to Roanoke. Funny, the best times I've had at VMI were away from VMI. Everyone had their own name for me….Monkey, Oscar The Grouch…etc Well, it's really going to come down to the wire with academics…I literally am getting a 2.0 and going. I never bought into that whole ranker thing and I'm so glad. I'm also glad I won't have to march PTs or sit in my room on confinement or have to ask someone else to get my own mail. Honestly, I have a lot of regrets about my four years here but that doesn't matter. To all my friends: to those going out to wear a better uniform, stay safe and I'll see you out there. To those who are staying home to make money…make some for me, please? For those staying at the I for more fun, keep a low profile and stay out of trouble. To everyone…don't get married now, go enjoy life first! Well, that's about it, see you all down the road.

Throughout my cadetship I was able to learn many different things that I couldn't attain from any other school. I learned the value of friendship, how as little as one person standing with you can make you feel that much stronger. The friends and bonds I've made here will last a lifetime. I learned the value of leadership. Through witnessing two different types of authority, I am now aware of how to treat those that I may be in charge of one day. Always build up those that are under you, never tear them down. I have learned the value of respect. Respect is earned, not inherited. I have seen too many people that demand respect, as opposed to the type of people that act truthfully and faithfully that I award my respect to.

Finally after four years my journey is over. I would not have been successful without the support and love from my friends, family and especially my parents. I hope that I can be as good a son to them, as they have been a Mother and Father to me. Thank you for everything.

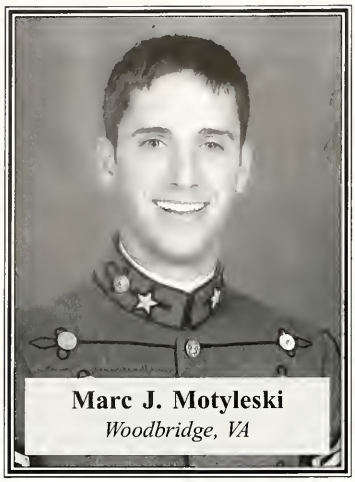
Ranger Company 3, 2; National Guard with "Clown" 2, 1.

Dyke Line
2000 - Nathan Friedline
2006 - Casey Ward

Dyke Line
2000 - Jason Clough
2006 - Christopher Chase, Robert Zirkle

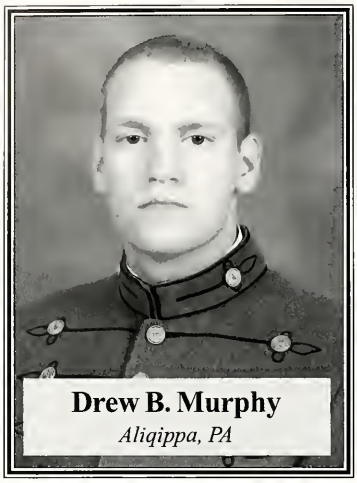
Dyke Line
2000 - Brent Kennedy
2006 -

VMI



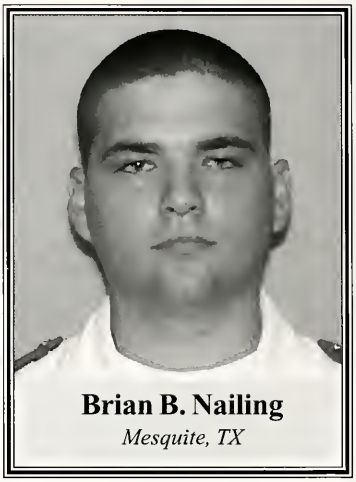
Marc J. Motyleski
Woodbridge, VA

Civil Engineering - Army
Protein Boy, Airborne,Double Stacked



Drew B. Murphy
Aliqippa, PA

Mechanical Engineering - Army



Brian B. Nailing
Mesquite, TX

Biology - Army

Why did I come to this place? I'll blame that one on my dad. More importantly how did I get through this place? It was all the hard core Alpha buddies and CE pals, maybe that special girl I got together with 3rd class year, who would have guessed? She's at least the one that got my mind of this place; "How in the hell am I gonna afford a ring from Tiffany's? I came to VMI finding out I'm in a company with some kid I knew since 7th grade. Through the ratline only one of my STP roommates makes it. Who would have guessed Nakazawa? 3rd class year, who was that @$$hole kid who got me to start drinking…Yeah my RM. All those MBC girls stalking us. Thanks to some rat that threw a water balloon at them, they quit coming for a while. Then they decided to come back with exlax cookies. Then comes Kristin, who changes the world for me, making me hate this place even more. I still remember all those trips to Radford and hanging out. 1st class year I don't think I even stayed here a single weekend. When you get this close to being on your own you realize how much your parents and family mean to you. I know I couldn't have done any of this without you guys. All your letters, cards (even the ones for Halloween), and wonderful care packages (come 2nd class year they all seemed to get lost in the mail somehow, haha). I love you mom, dad, Sandy and Jenn.

While our cadre may have overlooked the fact that Drew was in our company, they certainly took notice of his fantastic military bearing. Hence we started calling him 1st Corporal Murphy on the third stoop, master sergeant second, and Battalion S-4 on the first. Drew was the ranker who wasn't. He had the grades, the PT scores, the bearing, but something lay embedded in his psyche that screamed 'private'. To his credit, he kept his cadre persona and his BR persona separate; after 4 years I still haven't met the 'cadre Murph' that so terrified two consecutive years of rat-ties. He may have been an object of terror for some, but to us he's always been so much more. How? Well its always easy to explore the tangibles, he's the guy who will sit on a hungry stomach just so he can eat with his buddies, the single most excited cadet in barracks when furloughs rolled around, and of course, the man who holds nothing back when throwing his sandals at a snoring roommate. Per their nature, the intangibles are so much harder to grasp. How do I convey to everyone what a good natured kid Murph is? I guess you'd just have to meet him. For a place that is founded on adversary, we've etched enough good memories into these walls to make this long, strange trip worth another 4 year trip around the block.

Here's to the good times to come buddy. <JON>

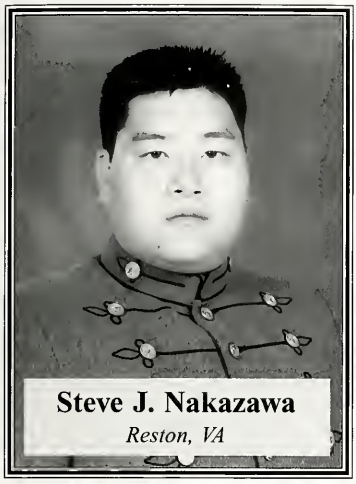
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Rat/4th class Strength and Fitness; 3rd class: Ranger Company, ; Triathlon club; 3rd class Summer: Airborne & Air Assault ; 2d class: Triathlon club; 1st class: Rugby (when I wasn't hurt from it), Strength and Fitness, Soils Lab Tech

Dyke Line
2000 - Jonathan Lee
2006 - Charles Brennan, Miguel Cervoni

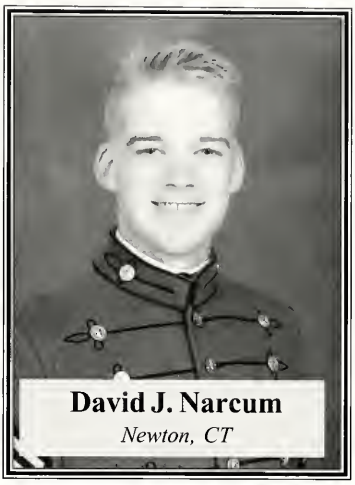
Dyke Line
2000 - Kenneth Sykes
2006 - Phillip Hahn

Dyke Line
2000 - Michael Mule
2006 -



Steve J. Nakazawa
Reston, VA

Electrical Engineering - Army



David J. Narcum
Newton, CT

International Studies - Marine Corps

Brandon L. Naughton
Portage, MI

Computer Science - Air Force

Well, what can I say? It's been an interesting four years for me at the "I". It seems like a lifetime ago since I was a Rat, and now I'm starting my career. It's strange how four years at VMI can make a person change their whole perspective on life.
I'd like to thank all of my BR's and friends that helped me get through and listened to me when I needed an audience. Colin, you've been my best friend at VMI, we've had lots of fun times together, try to stop snoring, and I wish you only the best. To Greg, Jason, Jared, Dave, Cullen, Wheal, and Bill: thanks for the great times and keep in touch!
To the rats of 180: Andrew, you were a good rat and friend, you'll do well here, and I'm very proud of you. David, you're a good kid, keep on moon-walking, and don't let Tom get to you too badly. Tom, you've made this year interesting to say the least, study harder, stay out of trouble, and you'll do fine.
Finally, I'd like to thank God for guiding me through my life, I'm excited to see what He has in store for me in the future. I would also like to thank my Mother, who's always been there for me and supported me in my endeavors.
Here are some words of wisdom: "Life moves pretty fast. You don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."
~Ferris Beuller

Take me back home
There is nothin' fair in this world
There is nothin' safe in this world
And there's nothin' sure in this world
And there's nothin' pure in this world
Look for something left in this world
Start again
Come on
It's a nice day for a white wedding
It's a nice day to start again

Thanks, Billy Idol.

"A little bit more Every day A piece of my sanity
Slips away...."

I've hated a lot of things about VMI over the years but one of them has never been my BR's. Unfortunately I never really got to know most of you as well as I wish I had. During third class year, as most of you know, I lived over in Ireland to "study". When I came back the whole class seemed to know everyone, but I was still meeting new BRs all the time. Despite being away for a year everyone was very kind to me and still accepted me as a friend. I would like to thank all of you for the kindness and friendship you've shown me over the past four years. Especially my best mate Brian Sinkule who hopefully will make it back next year and graduate. Also, special thanks to my roommates this year who took me in. I appreciate all that Jan, Chat, and Joe did for me over the past year. I wish to all my BRs the best of luck in the future, and I hope our paths cross many times in the years to come. I also wish the best of luck in surviving VMI to my friends in the younger classes and to my Rats. Take care all, and God Bles

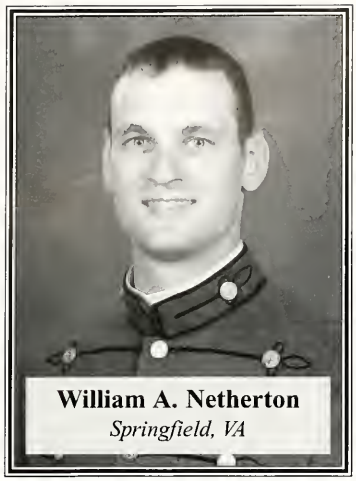
"I'm not singing for the future, I'm not dreaming of the past, I'm not talking of the first times, I never think about the last" ~The Pogues

Band 4,3,2,1; Mess Hall Committee 2, 1; Cadet Battery 3; PVT 4,3,2,1.

Dyke Line
2000 - Brian Wescott, Len Cho
2006 - Andre Ihnen, Tom Bradford, David Rahl

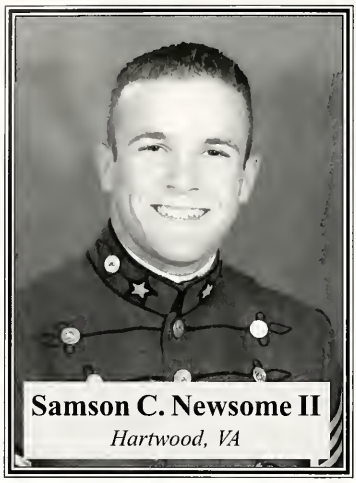
Dyke Line
2000 - Michael Meyer
2006 - Hasan Chaudhry, Bradley Edwards

Dyke Line
2000 - Matthew Kukla
2006 -Jonathan Nagle



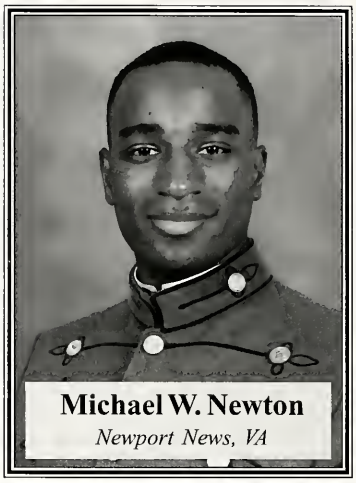
William A. Netherton
Springfield, VA

History - Air Force



Samson C. Newsome II
Hartwood, VA

International Studies - Marine Corps
Sambo, Muskrat



Michael W. Newton
Newport News, VA

History - Army

Well, its been 4 long years and this place hasn't been fun. I can't forget the good times I had with my dykes, friends and family. Colin, we've had fun in the 3 years we lived together and thanks for keeping me staright when I had too much to drink and should have gotten those A1s. Thanks to the Air Force for giving me a chance to leave as an officer and to my professors for passing me. Most importantly I have to thank God because he got me through it all. Before I go I have to say I hate the commandant's office, Artie, and the W&L police, who all made me miserable at some point in my cadetship. To Shawn, Jeff and Mark, be good and get though this place.

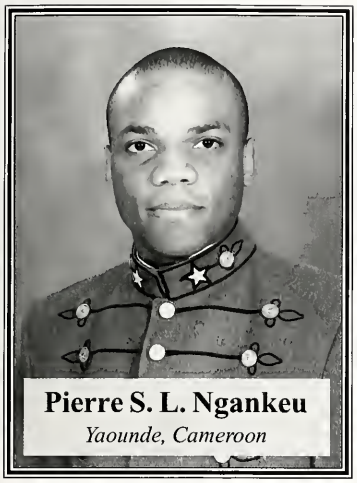
At this point, the formations spent in the bitter cold, the thousand steps taken to tireless drumbeats or infinite late-night hours logged for some test are nearly forgotten, and I am finally poised to close this chapter of my life. My family, you know what you mean to me; I love you all very deeply. My close friends, who truly defined the words "Brother Rat": Andy, Mike, Tripp, Chris, Matt, Nick, Jon, Joe...could I ever thank you guys enough? I can't imagine life after May 16, 2003 without you across the stoop, hall or room. What we've shared in four years, most people don't get in a lifetime. I have the most loyal, caring, selfless friends in the world—I thank God for you all. To the administration, those of you who inspired us: Colonel Rivers, Captain Wiggers, Chaplain Parks—thank you—you make this school what it is supposed to be. To the Corps, C-31 Rats, especially the cadets of Echo Company—remember what you hoped VMI would be when you arrived and work as hard as you can to realize that vision, though you are not treated like it, you represent the best our nation has to offer and one of its last great hopes; make a difference. Saul—"Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go" –Joshua 1:9 *Semper Fidelis*

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Kenneth Sykes
2006 - Jeff Gilmore, Sean Loman

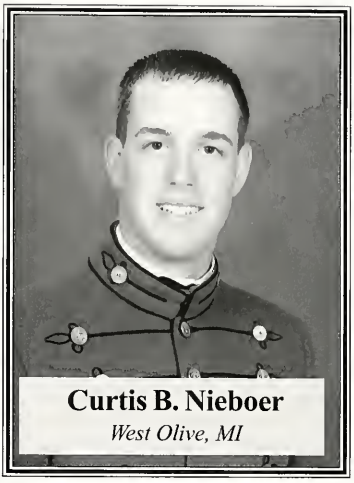
Dyke Line
2000 - Ross Fuller, Sean Melon
2006 - Clinton Williams

Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Abbott
2006 -



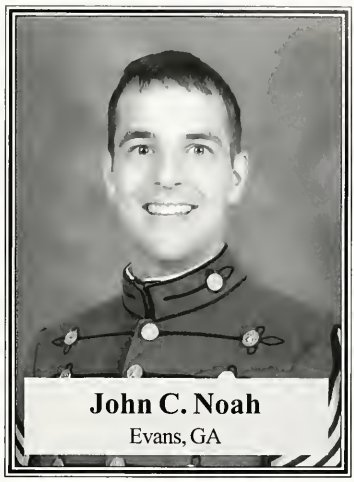
Pierre S. L. Ngankeu
Yaounde, Cameroon

Mechanical Engineering - Army



Curtis B. Nieboer
West Olive, MI

History - Navy



John C. Noah
Evans, GA

Psychology - Air Force

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

I have seen and done everything here that I had hoped to… and a few things I had not expected. But now it is over, and we move on to the next season of life.

Brent, Nathan, and Ed: I could not have hoped for better friends. Thank you. Best of luck in the years ahead.

To those I leave behind, I wish you all fair winds and following seas. May life take you wherever you hope to go.

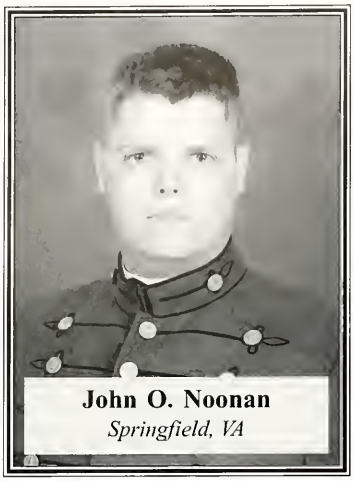
I want to begin by saying thanks. Thanks to God for helping me through my years here, thanks to my parents and family for supporting and encouraging me, thanks to my friends here for being my friends, I couldn't have made it without anyone of those people. I also want to thank the administration. They, with individual exceptions, have taught me how not to be a leader. But the end of one's cadetship is supposed to be a happy time so I am not going to dwell on the bad things. I also want to thank Chaplain Park for supporting me and being someone that I am able to look up to. To all my friends here, I will always remember you, and to the people who aren't my friends, all I can say is I'm sorry things worked out the way they did. Well, good luck to everyone as they leave here, or stay here in some cases, and I will see you later.

Pipe band, College Republicans, cpl, sgt, XO, cadre 1st class year, intermurals.

Dyke Line
2000 - Paul Gray
2006 - Christopher Eaton

Dyke Line
2000 - Matthew Ross Keller
2006 - Brent Timmer, Nathaniel Moreira

Dyke Line
2000 - Miten Bhavsar
2006 -Kyle Hamm, Tim Greer

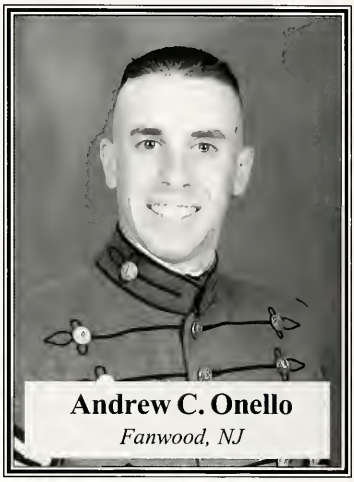


John O. Noonan
Springfield, VA

History - Air Force

Devin F. O'Brien
St, Louis, MO

Economics & Business - Army



Andrew C. Onello
Fanwood, NJ

Computer Science - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

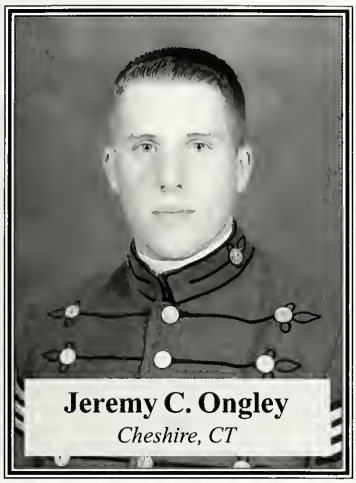
We began our journey together in 1999. We were told it would get better after the ratline, but it never did. Rats with bathrobes, rats with rings, and rats with rats. Some of us have survived the four years and others have not. Josh, wish you were here little man. I came to this school expecting to be taught about honor, discipline, character, and prestige. I leave the "I" having learned that these traits aren't taught, they are earned during the experiences we encountered on a daily basis. Above all else, I will take away from this place the closest circle of friends I will ever have. The nightmare known as VMI is over. First and foremost, I would like to thank my family, particularly my Mom and Dad, for helping me along the road of life. I never failed to make bad decisions, but you two were always there to help me back onto my feet. To Dave (How's the phone bill?), B-Dub, Philk (Hands to yourself), Dan, Matt (Texan), DC, Wes (Congrats on Stanford), Kyle, Paul, Mike H., Sammy, Chris (Another Texan), Tripper, Andy A., Drew, Smitty, A-Pang, O-Ruey, Chip, Kennon, Mike D., BT, Joe (See you out in the Fire Department), KP, Blake, Beastie, Ado, and of course Nate (a.k.a. Vin Diesel)...Thank you all for helping me keep what sanity could be kept.. A wise VMI graduate once said, "I must be going to heaven, because I've served my time in hell."

OGA-1, Cadet Newspaper-1,2,4,
Bomb EIC-1, NCMT AS3-2, 476 Academic
Honor Society-4

Dyke Line
2000 - Ryan Cengeri
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Abbott Keese
2006 - Derek S. Stiller

Dyke Line
2000 - Thoren Peterson
2006 - James Donovan,Brian Hunt



Jeremy C. Ongley
Cheshire, CT

History - Army

In my four years here I have learned several things about myself and the people I met here. Simply put, the people I call my friends here are like my family; without them I feel that I could not have survived this place. Jon and Tom, you two are my brothers and my best friends; I'll never forget the times we had here together. To my rat I say this: Keep pushing yourself, or one day you'll look back and see you had done nothing worthwhile during your time here. Mom, Dad, Jeff and Justin thanks for putting up with me, I only hope I have made you proud of me. To Hotel Company - "We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; for he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother."

Victoria J. Ortiz
Manassas, VA

Chemistry - Army
Vic, VicDog, Tricky Vicky

Maybe somewhere along the way I left a lasting impression behind but I know without a doubt I've picked up some pretty important tidbits from different people I'll take along for the rest of my life. Even when I'm gone I know I'll always have Jen, Erica, Alicia, Alia, Ruth, Sports Medicine because there is no "I" in Sports Med, SWE and all the other girls in Sloth Bondage, my best Spring Break complete with Jungle Juice and the Schoolers, all of my rats: Adrian my little spy, Trista my partner in gossip who was always there for me in the mornings and afternoons, Shelly who always kept it real, Nick my B Co. token drunk, Angela who will hopefully find her way and Amber the sweetest girl, who was always nice about everything. OGA (one word) and the gossip that kept us in business, all my B Co. Rats even including Walton.
I wouldn't have made it as far as I have through life and through here if it werent for my parents. They were the two people who encouraged me the most and also compelled me the strongest to stick it out, knowing I would be glad I had. If they hadn't been behind me through all of this I wouldn't be right.
I want to thank Tommy O. as well, because he got me through my toughest times and was there for me when no one else wanted to be. I think about you all the time

OGA 1st

Seth Ostlund
Singers Glenn, VA

Chemistry - Army

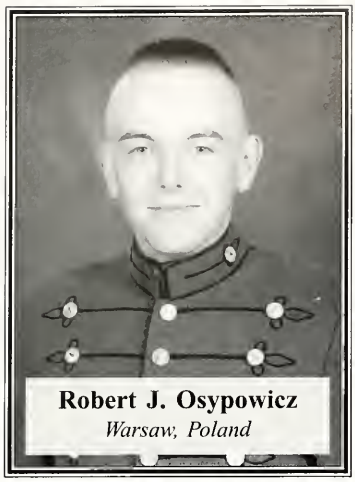
In my four years I've met enough good people and made enough friends to last a lifetime. It's the people that make this place bearable, and the right people can even make it enjoyable. Thanks to Ross and my dykes for showing me how to find my own way. Thanks to the chemistry department for building me into the colossal nerd I am today. Thanks to the track team for giving a 12'6" H.S. vaulter a chance...who knew I could throw a spear? A BIG thanks to Drew, Jon, Wes and Donald for being the best roommates a Goon could ask for. I really don't want my four years to be over. I'm having too much fun right now. I'm going to miss the games in rooms 426, 363, 233, and C-29, the fun in the concourse, the kickball and softball in the courtyard, the class parties, the ping-pong in the SB, the violins, and movie-night in the library. I'm going to miss my buddies in the science building (admit it...we're all nerds), my track buddies, most of my BR's (sorry...but I'm probably not going to miss all of you), and I'm going to miss my new friends from club 300. Good luck Brian, I've got every reason to believe you'll be successful at VMI. To anybody who bothers to read this little history, say hi to my little brother Isaac for me (he's the one that looks just like me).

Track team: 99-03 (captain 02-03)
President of ACS
Marshall Table
Chemistry Nerd

Dyke Line
2000 - Jeremy Berry
2006 - Jason Long

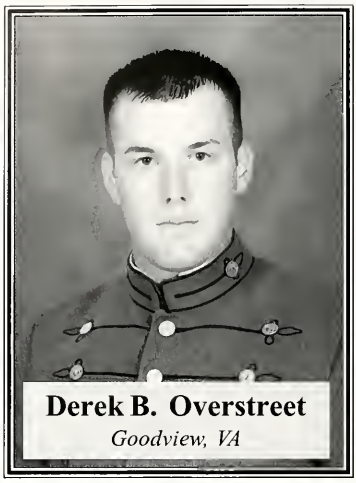
Dyke Line
2000 - Robert Mason
2006 - Trista Hays, Amber Blain, Adrian Cmerek

Dyke Line
2000 - Ross Fuller
2006 -Bryan Yerger, Zachary Miller



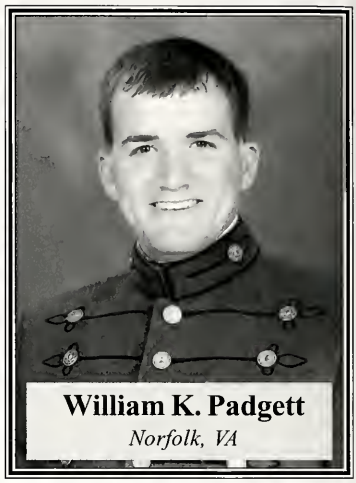
Robert J. Osypowicz
Warsaw, Poland

History - Army



Derek B. Overstreet
Goodview, VA

Civil Engineering - Army



William K. Padgett
Norfolk, VA

History - Navy
Padg, Peaches, Inspector Padgett

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

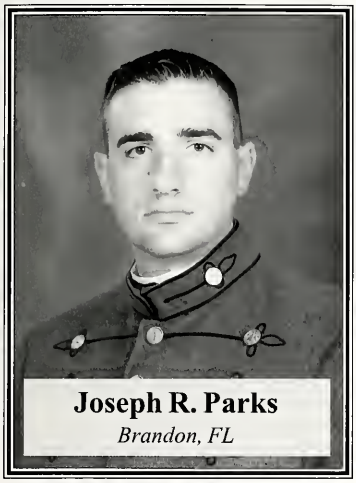
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Well my VMI experience has finally come to an end. I must say that it has been a rough and interesting journey, but I'm glad I went through it and I'm very glad that it is finally over. I want to thank my parents and my family for being there for me and helping me out these four years. Katie thanks for being there for me these last two years and being so amazing. I love you so much! I want to thank my dykes for making me into the proud first class private that I am today. To my roommates, it's been a great time. You all definitely made these few years memorable—to say the least. To my rats…hang in there, y'all have been great, and it will all be over soon enough. Just remember the 757! And to the class of 2003, you all have been awesome. We've had some good times and we have many more to come. Good luck to you all.

Dyke Line
2000 - Ryan Mahoney
2006 - Matt Oliver, Dennis Crump

Dyke Line
2000 - John Archer
2006 -

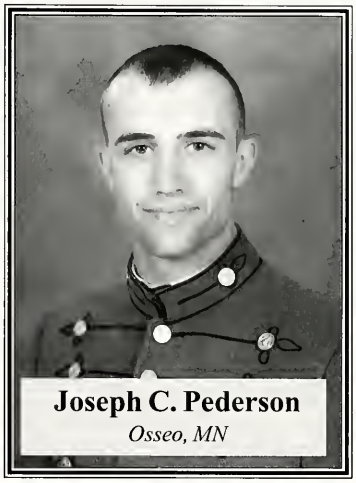
Dyke Line
2000 - Alan Johnson
2006 - Kyle Madden, Sean Moran



Joseph R. Parks
Brandon, FL

History - Navy

I have to begin by thanking my family. Both of my parents somehow seem to have lived this experience with me. Between the late night phone calls and IM conversations they certainly seem to have learned the same lessons I have, those lessons being confinement, PTs and potential suspension. Not to mention my brother, who constantly listened to my pathetic problems on a normal basis. I would also like to express my gratitude to two professors who have given me more than intellectual knowledge. Col. Baragona and Doc Monsour have both taught me life lessons, never to be forgotten. Finally, I would like to thank my fiancée, Lindsey; you have truly become the wind beneath my wings and I am looking forward to spending the rest of my life with you

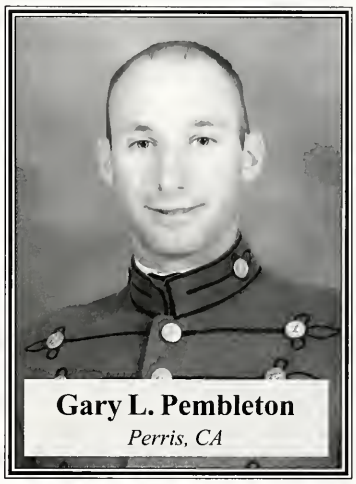


Joseph C. Pederson
Osseo, MN

International Studies - Marine Corps

I have made some good friends while I have been at VMI, I have met some bad ones too but what I remember most is the good ones. My past and present roommates have always been there to get into fights with, listen to me complain, travel with, get drunk with, and talk about girls with. They have helped to keep me sane along with a few other people here that I consider friends. Another group here at VMI that has had a positive effect on my life has been some of those people I have served with in NROTC. My fellow Marine options have always been around with plenty of motivation (and stupidity at time, myself included), keeping my mind on my true goal when coming to VMI…becoming an Officer in the United States Marine Corps. The VMI Track program, its coaches and some of its athletes, have been a very positive aspect during my entire VMI experience. My parents are great, my sisters are…well they are sisters so aren't supposed to be great all the time but they are always there to talk to, foreign girls are the best, long distance relationships suck, confinement sucks, conduct probation sucks. Some words of wisdom to all those people who read this…don't get drunk with French foreign exchange students and then punch out side view mirrors of cars, it will end up being very bad no matter how right it may seem at the time.

VMI Track 4,3,2,1; Bulldog 2; French Honors Society 2,1; Glee Club 2,1; Player 4,3,2,1; Promaji 2,1; Private 4,3,2,1; Sempre Fi 2,1; Permit 4,3,2,1; Junglefever 4,3,2,1; Yellowfever 1; Study Abroad 2nd sem. 3; A1 club 1; Hotel Co. 4,3,2,1;



Gary L. Pembleton
Perris, CA

Mechanical Engineering - Navy

I can sum up my thoughts on VMI in one simple quote from a friend, "It was the coolest thing that I would never do again." Some of my greatest memories are launching water balloons at Thirds' rooms at 1 in the morning. Paintball fights in the room, late nights in the computer lab of NEB with my fellow engineers beating and cursing at computers for being stupid, and quite a few random road trips just to get out of VMI. Here's to all my friends and engineering buddies, we made it…despite CEC and all those d#$* projects and late nights. I will never forget hanging out and mocking everyone just for the fun of it. One last memorable quote just for Sergeant Major…"Penflares!"

Member of the Rock Climbing Club:Vice President AAAA Society; President Paintball Club; Trident Society

Dyke Line
2000 - Brian Skusa
2006 - Matthew Smith, Shaun Jones

Dyke Line
2000 - BJ Alvin
2006 - Albert Arline

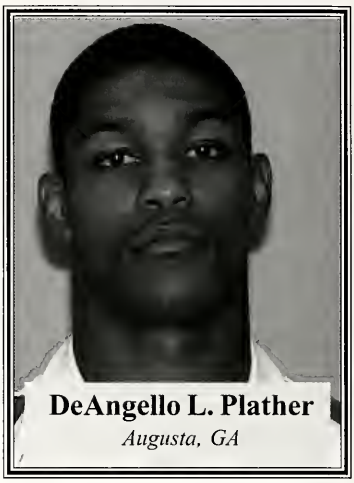
Dyke Line
2000 - Conrad Bicknell
2006 -Rafael Rivera

Kyle C. Pfeiffer
Bel Air, MD

Computer Science - Army
Fife, P-Fife, Jack Hagel

Clifford M. Piernick
Springfield, VA

International Studies - Air Force



DeAngello L. Plather
Augusta, GA

Economics & Business - Army

Kyle Pfeiffer will get up mornings, shoulder the 9-to-5 wheel, stupefy himself with mind-numbing entertainment at night, and will not think too searchingly about the world around him. Aberration from the cultural mean will be rejected from his neat, little mind. He will work or causes he does not like, do things he does not want to do, so he can buy processed food, live in a processed house, in a processed suburb, next door to a processed family with processed kids. He will not question the world held out to him by his culture, for he has been pacified at a young age by the cycle of labor that dulls senses with ho-hum tasks and endless gridlock. He will not live for the moment. One would be hard-pressed to say he would live at all. He will take inordinate pride in his undergraduate institution, an institution that takes inordinate pride in its ability to effectively train students for the same cycle. And for killing. He will continue this cycle by earning more money so he can buy more things. He will never satisfy his internal longing. The things he will buy will inevitably break, facilitating a need to buy more things. This is why he will get up mornings, shoulder the 9-to-5 wheel, stupefy himself with mind-numbing entertainment at night, and will not think too searchingly about the world around him. Go Big Red.

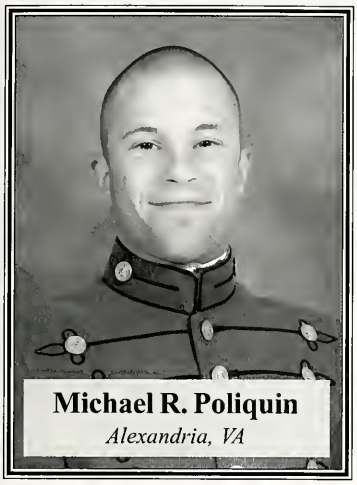
It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Clint Mundinger
2006 - Paul Welsh

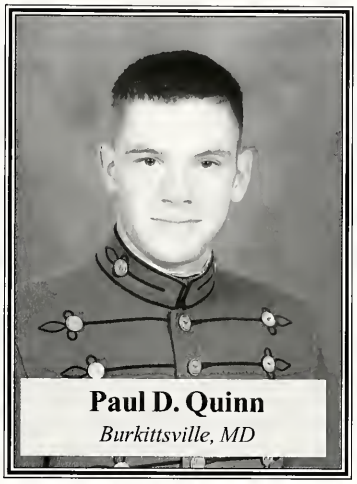
Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Andrew Smith, Joseph Reiter

Dyke Line
2000 - Quesuan Wigfall
2006 -



Michael R. Poliquin
Alexandria, VA

History -Marine Corps



Paul D. Quinn
Burkittsville, MD

Economics & Business - Marine Corps

William C. Ragland
Kilmarnock, VA

English - Army

The greatest part of my VMI experience is due, without doubt, to people I have met along the way. I was lucky to start with Jon Anderson and Justin Fentress as my first roommates. We had the best times and have many great memories. Jon, bloody ducks and bloody noses never stopped your will to fight, and I suppose, for the record, I was the one who "quit" eventually. Justin, thanks for losing one of my shoes. It will remain forever in a certain wall in the VMI barracks. Juan, Adam, and Craig contributed to the best possible finish to the four years, because, somehow, we all balanced each other out. Juan, if your short attention span has let you read this far, congratulations; maybe we misdiagnosed your ADD. Adam, "Hey," I'll beat you to the end of any staircase. Craig, I'll follow the rules: hit first and don't stop. And yes, we know it's the robe that's dirty and not you. Zane, Jesse, Jochen, Clay, Bryan: you had the best dykes. Be the same when it's your turn. Coach Hill, you are undeniably the nicest man I know. Mom and Dad, you have been nothing less than the best parents I could ever ask for, not only during my time at VMI, but throughout my entire life. Thank you for your care and guidance. Bobby, you are my favorite brother. To all family and friends, thanks and love.

There are countless people whom I owe everything to for getting me to where I am today. Mom and Dad, you have always been there for me through thick and thin and I am eternally indebted to you. You are my heroes! Ms. Lindsey White, you are the love of my life and I can never express in words how much you mean to me and the difference you have made in my life! I am excited about our future and I cannot wait to devote everything I am to your happiness. You are my dreams come true! To my roommates and the few other BR's I respect, thank you for carrying me through those times when quitting seemed like the only logical option. Whether you realize it or not you were the sole reason I returned to our beloved institute semester after semester. Many of you slid through VMI barely noticed, others distinguished themselves in every way possible; my respect goes to all of you. You exemplify the very reason I chose to come here. You have become a rare breed in today's society; live it up for all it is worth. The world is yours for the conquering, never hold back. Strength and Honor!
Rest in Peace Barrett F. McIlhenny

This place is crazy. The experience wasn't what I thought it might be but few things ever are. Ideals are for the birds; nothing will ever be what you expect. The real challenge is to accept this and laugh at the things that are funny, cry at the things that are sad, and yell when you want to yell.

That being said, I couldn't have realized this important dogma or made it through the past four years without God, the love of my family especially Dad, Mom, and Alex; VMI's fun loving and hard hitting rugby team; my roommates Jake, John, Sean, and Patrick; the trip to Pittsburgh with Ryan, Eddie, Tambo, and the legendary Dr. King; the guidance from the English Department; Bob Cuthbertson; the Citadel van incident; alcohol induced conversations about philosophy; and of course a certain ex-girlfriend. I am going to miss everyone and with the unpredictable times our country faces right now we should all try to do what we can to make this world a better place. Good luck to my rats Kyle and Mike and remember this place is crazy and that's just the way it is. Good luck to all my rugby slugs and remember to always loosen those shoulders up by rotating your arms in manic furious circles. Much love to everyone and good luck.

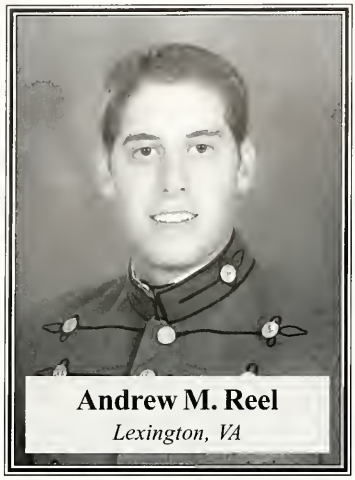
Title IX; D Co Rat Challenge

Rugby 4 Captain and President 1
Match Secretary 1, Pre-Law 1,

Dyke Line
2000 - Timothy Joyce
2006 - Zane Irby

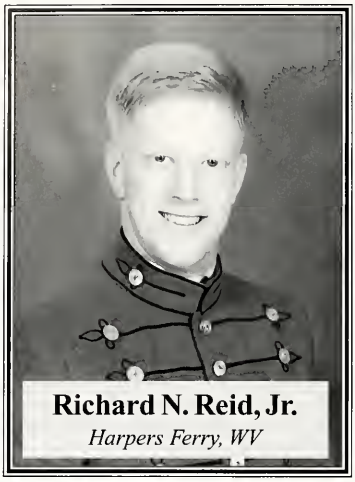
Dyke Line
2000 - Shawn Segreti
2006 - Christopher-Ray Smith

Dyke Line
2000 - Adam Priest
2006 -Kyle Rosch, Michael Forster



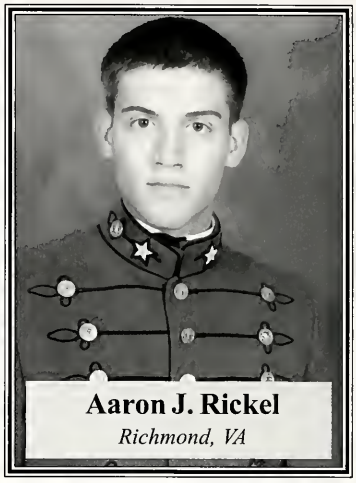
Andrew M. Reel
Lexington, VA

Chemistry - Army



Richard N. Reid, Jr.
Harpers Ferry, WV

Computer Science - Army
Dick, Dickie, Possum, Bean



Aaron J. Rickel
Richmond, VA

Chemistry - Army

Prepare for everything in life, and know there is always someone watching over you. Four long years have taught me a lot, but my first class year has taught me the most. There are times of love, pain, and suffering, but there also life long brothers. I would have not made it through here without you guys; SZVETITZ, RIOS, GREEN, GORSKI, CARR, WAGNER, STEELE, BLACKWOOD, you all are truly my brothers. Adam, you have to endure and prevail. There is nothing like doing something that rewards you in the end. Mother, you are the strongest person I know and I will always live everyday knowing my mother is the greatest. Dad, you gave everything to me, and you are my role model. You made me proud to be your son for 23 years of your life, and I will strive to make you proud for eternity. Keane you are the greatest dyke ever, and we will grow old together "old man". My parents helped me grow up, but VMI made me a man. The journey is over, but yet it has just begun.....LIZ. GOD BLESS

4 years. Damn its hard to believe we've come this far. Its been a long, hard road these past 4 years. There have been good times and bad, hopefully for most its been more good than bad. I've had my fair share of both. I'm grateful for the personal growth I've experienced and for the great friends who have aided me in this growth along the way. I've learned a lot from their infinite and sometimes not so infinite wisdom. Josh and AJ its hard to believe the transition we've all made from the days of STP. Rumor has it despite the girlfriend Will's still gay. Still no ones for sure. Thanks for helping me get through the years its been a fun trip and I'll never forget you guys. Everyone else for there are far too many to cover in 250 words, best of luck as you travel down the long road ahead post graduation. Some are off to grad school like myself, some managed to find a job, and still others will enjoy freedom for awhile not sure what to do with themselves. Hopefully we can all take with us the great friendships and learning experiences we've had along the way. I know I couldn't have done it without the love and support of all my friends. I wish all of you nothing but the best in life, may you all become overwhelmingly rich and successful. Hey Kyle how bout those Canadians, heh…yeah how bout those C-A-N-A-D-I-A-N-S.

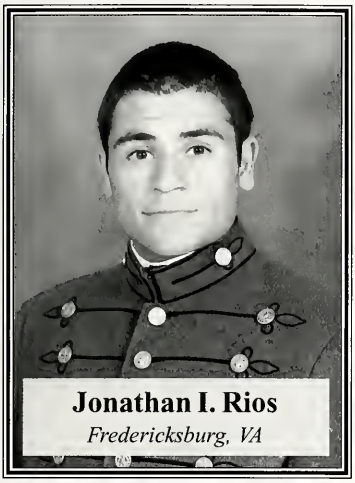
Abby, I couldn't have done this without you, thanks for all of your support and understanding. Mom and Dad, thank you for giving me this opportunity and encouragement to get through it all. 302 dyke and 302 A (annex); apples vs. Washington; RIP Brown S.; Rooster; 28 diamonds all the way around; late night dinner with the invasion; "the product of…"; Madden 2003 ruined my grades – Go Packers; PVT to the end; the old shoulder; running – I'd rather not. Don't look back, just to the left and right because that's where my boys will always be. Now Entering WOLFPACK Territory!

Intramural Soccer, Intramural Softball,
Intramural Football, Deans List

Dyke Line
2000 - Charles Jones
2006 - John Herzog

Dyke Line
2000 - Matthew Okuley
2006 - Josh Freeman, Sean Wolf

Dyke Line
2000 - Jeb Cox
2006 - Patrick Heiny, Hans Porter

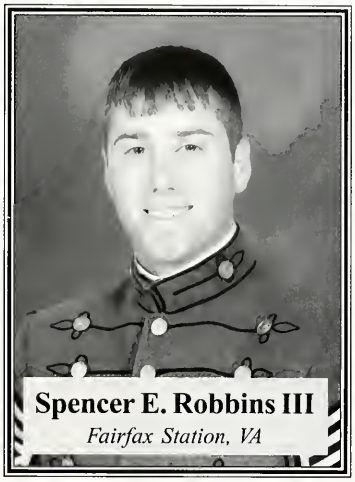


Jonathan I. Rios
Fredericksburg, VA

Psychology - Army

Alexander C. Rizzato
San Jose, CA

Psychology - Marine Corps



Spencer E. Robbins III
Fairfax Station, VA

History - Army
Tripper, Bones, Starfish

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

College graduation is a funny feeling. Feels like just yesterday you were in high school. You question whether you are actually ready to take that next step. Well, it is now our time to take that next step. And we are all doing it with glimmering pride. First and foremost, I would like to thank my parents for giving the opportunity to attend VMI. Without their love and support, this would be nothing more than a dream. I once heard a saying that basically sums up life at VMI. Cadets hate being at VMI, but love being from VMI. During the last four years we all endured trials and tribulations that are indescribable to anyone outside of the four walls. The only reason we were able to survive was because of the brothers next to us. For me it was brothers like Chris, Knoruey, Apang, Matt, Vince, Andy, and John. The bonds we make at VMI are ever lasting. Although most of us may not see each other after graduation, what we did will never be forgotten. What we do after graduation will always be a product of how we were molded at VMI. An ancient Italian proverb states, "It is better to live one day as a lion than a hundred years as a sheep." At VMI we are taught to be that lion. We are taught to always strive for the best and never accept less.

I want to thank God for being with me through all my experiences in life, good and bad. I hope my faith will continue to grow. My host family: Philip, Janet, Jean, and the kids, Jacob and Anna. Thank you for giving me a home away from home. I looked forward to daily conversations with a few professors to get advice, to have a laugh, and to learn all at the same time. Doc Monsour, Col. Busch, and Col. Meriwether, I will never forget what you taught me. Emily: "Dude, thanks." LTC Rivers, thanks for the afternoon runs and the words of wisdom that came with them. My coaches: Col. Calkins, Maj. Eckloff, and Coach Underwood, you were always in my corner wiping the blood, the sweat, and the tears. The three years in the boxing room were painful, but they made me stronger. To the few BR's I actually respect: go out and conquer life. C-31: Sammy, Andy, Chris, and Mikey, no one else could put up with me every day for four years. You four were like the brothers I never had. My family, Ashley and Courtney, I love you with all my heart. Thanks for always understanding. Mom, I miss you so much. All of this was for you. You are my hero. Dad, thanks for being such a great mentor to me. If I can be half the man you are, I know I've made it. Thanks for always picking up the tab, you're my idol.

Boxing Team, 3,2; Assist. Capt., 1
Capt.; RDC, 1; Echo Rep

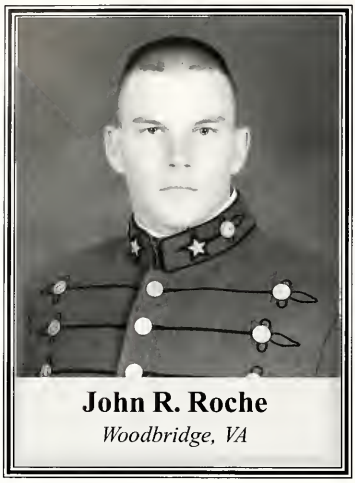
Dyke Line
2000 - Joseph Poppa
2006 - Thomas Nance

Dyke Line
2000 - Paul Webber
2006 - Jedidiah Tan, Nicholas Dowdle

Dyke Line
2000 - Tharen Peterson
2006 -Stephen Bartoszak

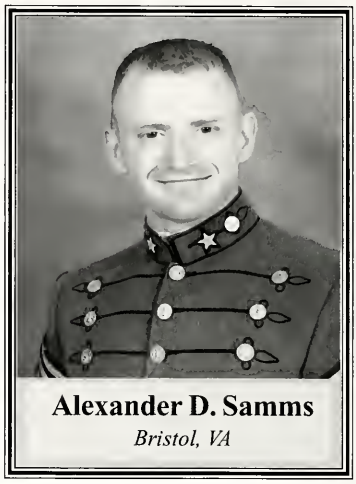
Joshua J. Robinson
Rutland, MA

International Studies - Marine Corps



John R. Roche
Woodbridge, VA

History - Army



Alexander D. Samms
Bristol, VA

Mechanical Engineering - Army

Four years have come and gone. There were ups and downs, but we made it through together. We lost a few along the way, but we will remember them. VMI gave us a taste of the real world: unfairness, disenchantment, hard work, and of course dedication. We remained dedicated to important things like reaching graduation, establishing ourselves as adult, and most important to each other. The institute certainly taught us how NOT to lead and even managed to throw in a few positive examples as well. I owe infinite thanks to both my parents. I could never have made it as far as I have without them. To Justin, Devin, Jeff, Brandon, Alex, Clint, Nate, Jay, Chris, Jason, and the remaining Horsemen thank you for the four most memorable years of my life. It has ended as quickly as it began, but now it is time to turn the page and start a new chapter.

There are a few things I have learned that if you do them, you will be successful in no matter what you attempt. 1. Always go your hardest, and do your best. 2. If you do right, then you can't go wrong. Besides that, I have loved the three and a half years I have seated at this place even if I complained about it. I have met my best friends here, learned some of life's harder lessons, and grown up to be the person I am today. To my parents, I love you. To my friends, thank you for being there. To my rats, do your best, learn from other's mistakes before you make them, and good luck. To my dyke, take care and I hope to see you in the DZ.

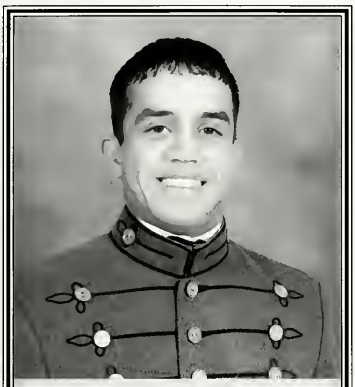
I am sitting here writing I have no idea what to talk about. I could talk about how much confinement sucks and how many penalty tours I marched but I would rather talk about the fun times. The first two that come to mind involve Christmas. I have to give a shout out to all that helped with this mastermind idea and the OG. It improved morale before a much needed break. There is nothing better than pillow fighting during FTX, hearing about my co-dyke cleaning up my puke, the shine box, or having my year long CEC project destroyed in a trash truck. I can tell you one thing there are definitely no tunnels leading under the parade deck. I would not be here without the friends I have and I wouldn't trade them for anything. My roommates not only took demerits but prevented me from getting kicked out of school for "hazing." All in all it has been a good time and if you stick it out it will be worth it.

RDC 1, CCS 2, Power lifting 2,1 Blood Bowl captain 2, Semper Fi Society 1

Dyke Line
2000 - Eric Adams
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Daniel Boyers
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Winston Brown
2006 - Kyle, Dan, Seth



Juan-Carlos Sanchez
Alexandria, VA

Computer Science - Air Force
"Chicho"

Frank B. E. Saul
Roanoke, Va

Mechanical Engineering - Navy

Justin M. Sayko
Bracey, VA

Civil Engineering - Army

The end of the road at this place has finally come to and end (somewhat for those of us who have to come back another semester). Either way I'm glad its over!! First, I would like to thank my family for helping me get through this place and for putting up with me for all these years. You have supported me on everything I've done. I couldn't ask for anything more. I would also like to thank Coach Roy Hill, my mentor and hero in life. If it wasn't for you I don't know if I would be where I'm right now. You have guided me on the right path since the first day I met you, back when I started out at 2-8 all the way through the sometimes-rough college seasons. You will always be my wrestling coach and most importantly my best friend. To my roommates, it's been an unbelievable ride. Craig, Adam, Mike, and Pat you guys are true brothers. To the VMI wrestling team, continue working hard and always keep your goals in mind. To the rats of S-16, stay true to each other and keep working hard. Don't take everything to serious and remember to always have fun. To all my other people out there....party is just beginning!!!

"The reason most people fail instead of succeed is that they trade what they want most for what they want at the moment"

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

I guess I never thought it would turn out as good as it did. I definitely have to thank my father for pushing me in this direction. I also want to thank my entire family and friends for all of their support and food, especially Kelly. Ok, enough of that, who wants to stay extra days in Jamaica? Room 107 & half of 105, sober up, be safe, "respect." Yeah, rats were a let down; hang in there Chris. And even though I still have to get up early, I'm just freaking ecstatic I don't have to roll my hay anymore. 451- Brandon, thanks for destroying my blanket, FFL. Well, Chris, the walls of life man, the walls of life.

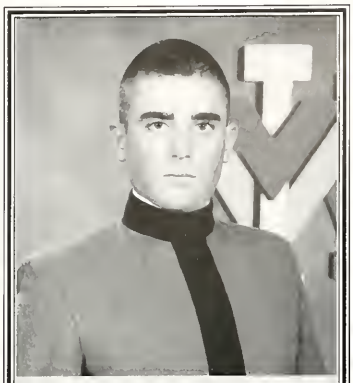
I'm walking away with a few positive things, believe it or not. I'm not going to chalk it up to a total loss because I doubt I'll ever find friendships elsewhere like I did here. Also, you definitely need to "get out" to learn, standing in one place stagnates your brain. 118-never thought you guys would last three years with me, thanks. Hey, can someone wake Dave up; I want to know if Matt lost weight?

Wrestling 5,4,3,2,1

Dyke Line
2000 - Guillermo Barquero
2006 - Jochen Granja

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - James Wicker

Dyke Line
2000 - Robert Kennedy
2006 -



Patrick P. Schaerrer
Bonita Springs, FL

Economics & Business - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

William V. Schaller
Rockleigh, NJ

History - Army
Billy Bob

Brian, Kyle, Tommy, Josh, and Pat; Things are different now that we're "out on parole", but I know I'll always remember how we kept each other laughing even when times were hard. I'm grateful I had you guys to share the ups and downs with, and I know we'll do everything we said we would after graduation, including keep in touch. Brinda: I still can't get over how lucky I was to find you. I can't thank you enough for all the hours you spent with me on the phone cheering me up when I just wanted to get away from this place. I will never forget all the love and affection you've shown me since the day we met, and I'm so glad we'll be spending the rest of our lives together. Mom: I can never begin to describe all the hard work and love you have put into our family. I wouldn't have made it through this place without you. You are a part in all of my successes whether past, present, or future.
Dad: You were perhaps the greatest influence and teacher I ever had. Whether it was a lesson in hunting or fishing, or hard work and persistence. You were there when I needed someone to talk to or take me to dinner at Applebee's Thanks for all the postcards and "welcome home" dinners.

Anthony J. Schmaus
Verona, NJ

History ~ Marine Corps

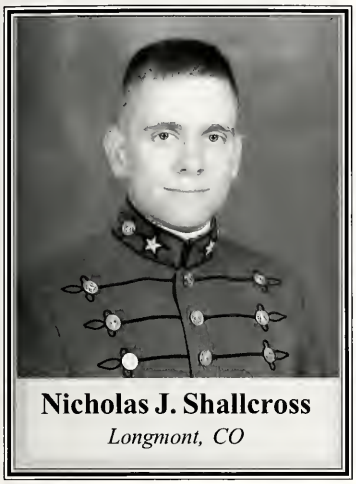
In reflecting on my four years here, I can only say that it has been a wild ride of periods of intense boredom intermixed with some of the best and worse times of my life. I have learned much about myself, others and the harsh reality of life. Perhaps the greatest lesson is that of recognizing the many faces of adversity, and overcoming them through patients, clear thinking and adhering to what is right. I have made friendships that will last a lifetime and even found love along the way. All in all, while not always pleasant, my time here was well spent,and no doubts a defining period in my life. I owe a great deal to my mother, my father and sister…for their constant love and support. To my brother rats who have made this experience bearable, all I can say is best of luck, and stay in touch. To all those commissioning: Good Hunting

VMI Ice Hockey Club 4,3; Community Service Club 2; 2nd Bat. S-5 Lt.1; VMI/RCHS Cadet Mentor Club (President) 1; Strength & Fitness Club 1

Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Abbott
2006 - Brenton Underwood, Alex Maslak

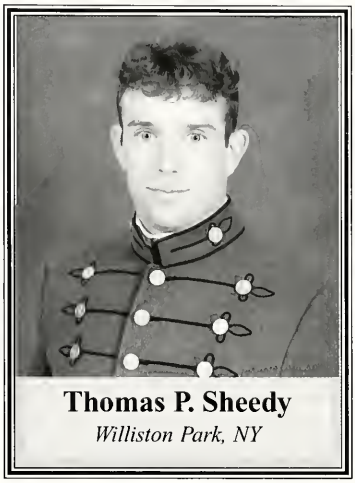
Dyke Line
2000 - Phillip Hopkins
2006 - Patrick Tangonan, Steven Mercer

Dyke Line
2000 - Joseph Shulkens
2006 - Todd Wilson



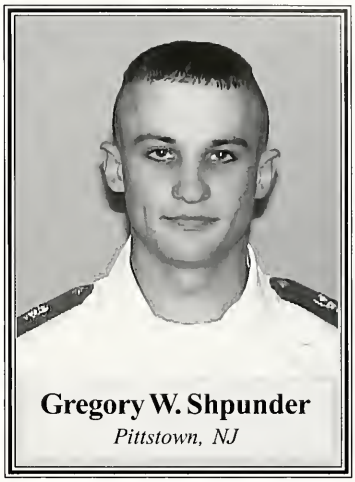
Nicholas J. Shallcross
Longmont, CO

Mechanical Engineering - Army
Ernie, Shall-Diddy



Thomas P. Sheedy
Williston Park, NY

English - Navy



Gregory W. Shpunder
Pittstown, NJ

Economics & Business - Army

I thought that graduation would never come. I still remember rat year as if it was yesterday; I will never forget guys like D-Ferg and Drew Dickinson. I would first like to thank God and my family especially Mom, Dad, and Amanda. Without your love and support, I would not have made it. Then there are my roommates: Matt Anderson, Erik Figueroa, Josh Middleton and Jay Splain (who do you think you are the rogues of Block 53 or something?). You guys have made the past two years the best of my cadet ship. No matter how bad we tormented each other, I always knew I could count on you guys for anything. I swear that if anyone had heard our conversations we would have been locked up, those were good times, I will miss them. To my other friends in the corps especially Travis and Dave good luck you future. David B., I am sorry that we failed, but hopefully justice will be served, you are still an honorable man. I hope that I can get used to a regular bed again. Such is life.

"Thank You" to my friends and family. I learned and earned one more semester to make the learning curve straight.
Ryan Alexander and Will Collier: Thank you for letting me be your Dyke. "Don't be brave, Run away!"
Sean McCormick, Dan Frank, Kelley DeNeen, and Martin Carlson: Thank you for letting me be your uncle dyke.
So What

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

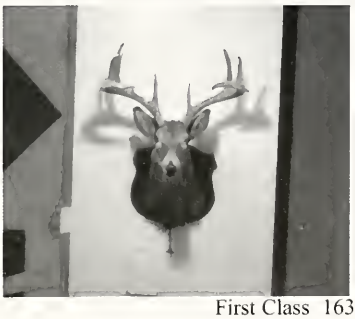
Rifle Team: 4,3,2,1 Team Captain: 1 Dean's List: 4,3,2,1 Crazy MOFO:2,1

Timmins-Gentry Music Society/VMI English Society/ VMI Hispanic Cultural Awareness Club/VMI Mess Hall Representative/Knights of Columbus/ "Walk of Life"/4 Year Division I Lacrosse Athlete

Dyke Line
2000 - Chris Pilger, Ed Ekpoudem
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Charles Gallienne
2006 - William Collier, Ryan Alexander

Dyke Line
2000 - Charles Minski
2006 -



Vadim Simakhov
Rego Park, NY

International Studies - Army
Russian, Smirnoff

Jonathan J. Simrak
Livonia, MI

History - Army

William J. Sinkinson
Richmond, VA

English - Army

To my mother – thank you. Mama, s tvoyey pomoshyu ya proshel cherez vse buri I uragani. Spasibo za lyubov, tvoyu mudrost, I ponimaniye." To all my roomies – you made my 1st class year exceptional. AJ – KILL! I pray for an opportunity to "hunt" by your side. Thanks for being there. Liou – Good luck hunting those MIGs; Dave – Since you are not going to "hunt," good luck taking over the financial world; Taylor – I know that you did not turn a deaf ear to your dykes' babbling. Casey – Same goes for you; Jin, Chang – get Kuo a girlfriend!
Taylor – 03 Vadim K. Simakhov, 00-Stefan M. Supon, 97-Max Hopkins, 94-Max Bulloch, 91-Chad Sutton, 88-Hugh P. Brien, 85-Pete Haik Mangerian, 82-David Mattew Holzback, 79-Robert C. Morris, 76-Bruce Undercoffer, 73-Roland Tiso

Sometimes I really disliked being here. 1st class year came around and things changed. I found myself dating a princess, having best roommates, having fun, cruising through classes, and enjoying my life. I didn't care what the ignorant said. I kept my head low and made it through without angering "the people in power." I never hated this place. In fact, I loved it. I just did not like the people who thought that their lack of common sense would never be noticed. As they say, thank you VMI. Good-bye. NSIB.

"Go on, get out. Last words are for fools who haven't said enough".
— Karl Marx, dying words to his housekeeper

I arrived at VMI a boy but today I leave a man. I want to thank my family, friends and faculty for their support over this four-year journey. The Institute provides the leadership skills necessary to survive in the real world and the strength to persevere in the face of adversity. I feel prepared to leave the Institute yet grateful for the leadership, experiences and lifelong friends. For my rats, "Life is tough but it's tougher if you're stupid" (The Duke).

Semper Fi

Dyke Line
2000 - Stefan Supon
2006 - Clinton Thompson

Dyke Line
2000 - Kyle Pabin
2006 - Jason Durr

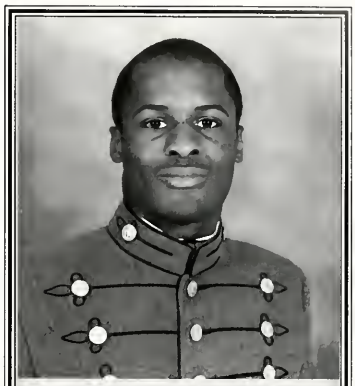
Dyke Line
2000 - George Esteve
2006 - Christopher Stone, Nicholas O'Connor

Gerald M. Smith
Lexington, VA

Economics & Business - Air Force

Nathan A. Smith
Cumberland, ME

International Studies - Marine Corps
Smithsonian, "Confucius"



Kevin E. Solomon
Chester, VA

Psychology - Army

It has been quite a ride the past 4 years at VMI, I know I could not have made it without my roommates from rat year to now. I will never forget the times we all shared together. All the crazy times with Dale, who taught us the 425 dance. Atto you are a hella cool person. Tom, you know what I said that night was true and I let the whole corps know you were innocent as well, glad you are back and continuing where you left off. Nick, 221 was an awesome time we had counter strike and bubblet do we need anything else? 121 wasn't the same without you, we missed you this year in the room. Your Asian was confused without you there all he does is sleeps and flexes in front of the mirror, he needs your help. Puppy, you are friend that exceeds expectations and I am glad I was able to be one of your friends, yeah can I get that video back from us wrestling on my birthday so all of Taiwan doesn't see it. Apang, I don't know what to say we have spent the last 3 years as roommates and best friends, it will be different without you around but I know we will stay in touch and get together as often as possible. I think if you hadn't been there third, second and first class years I would have had more concussions or broken something, thanks for everything you are a true friend in everyway, I will miss you.

"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." – Proverbs 19:21
When searching for words to adequately describe VMI, I am reminded of the story of a man who constantly hit himself in the head with a hammer. Asked why he continued such painful behavior, the man replied, "Because it feels so good when I stop." This comes as close as anything to explaining the masochistic relationship between cadets and the "I".
My cadetship has given me many things: a multi-faceted education, quasi-military instruction, time management skills, camaraderie, and the fervent conviction that cadets' veins flow with an even mixture of blood and bourbon. You guys amaze me. More importantly, VMI has given me brothers to replace the one I lost six years ago: Doug, Rollin, Clint, Brandon*2, Drew, Andy… I'd take a bullet for any of you and die smiling. Brian, you've been as good a rat as I could hope for; remember: what one man can do, so can another. To my relatives and the families and individuals who have provided as much love, support, and advice as a real family could have, I am eternally indebted. Above all, I praise my Heavenly Father for His wisdom, compassion, and grace – and for embodying the phrase "Semper Fidelis".

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Derek Gouker

Dyke Line
2000 - Benjamin Kaler
2006 - Brian Hunt, Stephen Zirkle

Dyke Line
2000 - Nathaniel Q. Haley
2006 -

BELMONT

Matthew W. Speers

Lansdowne PA

International Studies - Marine Corps
Herr Speers, Crazy Babies

"… I did not wish to live what was not life… I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life, to live so sturdily and Spartan-like as to put to rout all that was not life, to cut a broad swath and shave close, to drive life into a corner…" **-Thoreau**
I entered VMI not wanting the "traditional college experience" and let me tell you, I've experienced nothing "normal" here at Mother I. Has it been fun? No. Have I enjoyed myself? Not really. Am I glad I came here? Absolutely. I think Dad said it best, "It's like the dentist…you learn to live with the pain". Live with it I have, and now at the end of it I have a pride and a satisfaction that few will ever experience.
Brooke, forever my Devil Dog Sis, Ted, I always look up to my big brother, Brittany, you hold together the sibling hierarchy with an iron fist. Mom Dad not enough can be said, you've cheered me through the good and bad. Sovereign territory of 150, BK, BJ, and TP you've been my family, thanks for "rolling deep". Patrick, my battle buddy. Minions of Destruction: D, K, W, R, & S I've trained you in my warrior image, go forth now. And as for you Mother I, I've spent four years hating you and am about to leave you, but you'll never leave me…forever a smarting scar, only time can heal. Mother Green, here I come…

Jay D. Splain

Allentown, PA

History - Marine Corps
"One Way Jack", "The Neck"

"… I did not wish to live what was not life… I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life, to live so sturdily and Spartan-like as to put to rout all that was not life, to cut a broad swath and shave close, to drive life into a corner…" **-Thoreau**
I entered VMI not wanting the "traditional college experience" and let me tell you, I've experienced nothing "normal" here at Mother I. Has it been fun? No. Have I enjoyed myself? Not really. Am I glad I came here? Absolutely. I think Dad said it best, "It's like the dentist…you learn to live with the pain". Live with it I have, and now at the end of it I have a pride and a satisfaction that few will ever experience.
Brooke, forever my Devil Dog Sis, Ted, I always look up to my big brother, Brittany, you hold together the sibling hierarchy with an iron fist, Mom Dad not enough can be said, you've cheered me through the good and bad. Sovereign territory of 150, BK, BJ, and TP you've been my family, thanks for "rolling deep". Patrick, my battle buddy. Minions of Destruction: D, K, W, R, & S I've trained you in my warrior image, go forth now. And as for you Mother I, I've spent four years hating you and am about to leave you, but you'll never leave me…forever a smarting scar, only time can heal. Mother Green, here I come…

Rollin A. D. Steele

Virginia Beach, VA

Chemistry - Marine Corps
Toast, Steelah

I remember watching my dyke write his history when I was a fourth classmen, and I thought to myself, it is going to be an eternity until I am there. Well guys, we are there, and it seems like it was yesterday that we started. I want to thank God for all that he has done to strengthen me as well as my Mom, Brother and Sister, you all have always been there for me, thankyou. Sharky, Rars, and Raider, you guys are the best, I will never forget the BBC and all the times we had in the subaru. I will never forget you guys, thankyou also for always being there for me. BT, CA, DB, we will always be "together forever" Semper Fi devildogs! One thing I always wanted was to never have any regrets when I left VMI, for the most part, I have none, I have seen the sides of cadre for three years, and now as I finish up my cadetship I am doing it how I started, as a private, at least we are together right guys. They may take everything they can from me, they may break me, they may beat me down, but they will never take my honor, it is mine, it is me, it is what I am! Remember that Joe, and you will succeed in all you do. To my brother rats, best of luck in your endeavors, I will miss you all, take care and God Bless!

Semper Fi Society, 2/c 1/c year
Rat Challenge Station CIC: 1/c year

Dyke Line
2000 - Everett Jones
2006 - Sean McCormick

Rifle Team, Power Lifting, RDC, Semper Fi Society

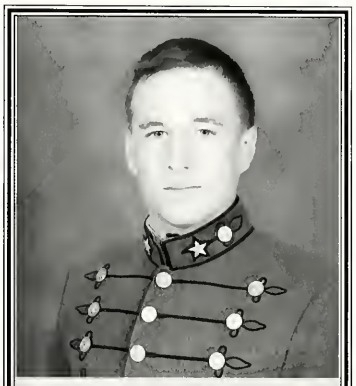
Dyke Line
2000 - William Ward
2006 -

1st CPL, 3rd; 1st SGT, 2nd; Reg XO, 1st; Rat Batt. CO, 1st; Strength & Fitness, 1st; Rock Climbing, 2nd; Mountain Biking, 2nd; Bulldog, 2nd; Horsemen, LIFE; BBC, 3rd & 2nd; REV VI

Dyke Line
2000 - Seldan Taylor
2006 - Joe Davidoski

Kenneth C. Stein
Yarmouth Port, MA

History - Navy



Slobodan Stipic
Subotica, Yugoslavia

Computer Science - Army

Galen W. Swank
Houston, TX

Mechanical Engineering - Army

For me, the purpose of VMI was more than just military and structure, but the experience. VMI is not a diploma or a ring or even a place. The essence of VMI is something intangible, something felt inside. It is something that I did not learn, but rather an impression in my heart. This separates us from other men. I will always remember the Valley of Virginia, and our beautiful town of Lexington. Despite the hardships, I do love our southern institution, the heritage and tradition. Rats, study hard and make us proud. Above all, I must mention my friends. You are always my brothers. VMI is fraternity. I am sure that sometimes I have been a difficult person to live with, but you all have helped me in many ways. I do hope that I have been appreciative of all of you though. It is important to always tell the people you love and care about that they are special. I have learned that this last year with my beautiful girlfriend Ïâéÿ. I always tell her how much she means to me. (Ïâéÿ, ß ëþáëþ ôâáÿ!) It is the same way with my friends and my family. I appreciate all of you and thank God for letting me have such wonderful people in my life. I have been very blessed. Jay and Jared, you are my best friends and have always been there for me. I hope to always be there for you.

He who angers you conquers you.
-Elizabeth Kenny

I have a simple philosophy: Fill what's empty. Empty what's full. Scratch where it itches.
- Alice Roosevelt Longworth

There is quite a bit I could say about the last four years, and there is even more I would like to say to all of the great men I have met over the course of those four years; however, I will do my best to condense all of it. To all of the incredible friends I have made here (you know who you are): I have never met a group of men for whom I have more respect. Each of you is a rare occurrence of morality and selflessness in a society facing a swift decline in ethics and values. When I leave VMI I am certain that I will attempt to seek out friends of the same character that I have found in each of you and unfortunately I am certain I will be disappointed in what I find. To my roommates, Paul, Dan, and Kyle: You are the best friends I will ever have. I am incredibly fortunate to know each of you. To those of you going into the armed services: Thank you, I am sure you will all do amazing things for our country.
I have heard many people say that maybe they should have gone somewhere else for their education. If I could do it all over again, I would do nothing different. The people I have met here have made it all worthwhile. Good luck to each of you.
To Barrett F. McIlhenny: We will never forget you. May you rest in peace.

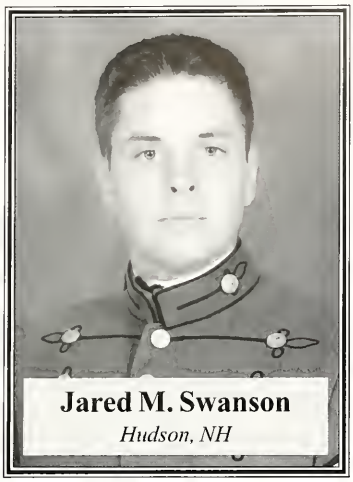
: "Duty then is the sublimest word in the English language. You should do your duty in all things. You can never do more, you should never wish to do less." General Robert E. Lee

Boxing Team – 4; Strength and Fitness Club – 2,1 (CIC); A – Team – 1; Tau Beta Pi – 2,1 (President); American Society of Mechanical Engineers 4,3,2,1 (Vice President); Omicron Delta Kappa – 2,1 (President); 2nd BN CO – 1; Golf CO – 1; Reg Sergeant Major – 2; Color CPL – 3

Dyke Line
2000 - Nicholas Mollenhauer, Matt Martin
2006 - Joseph Zyra, Stuart Miner

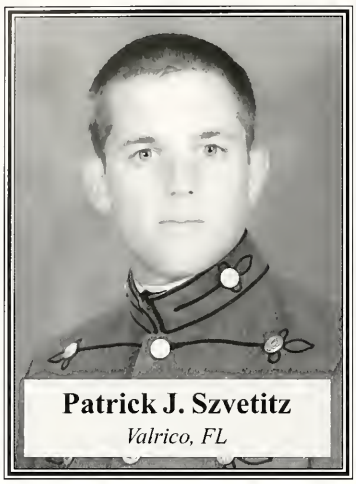
Dyke Line
2000 - Joseph Setina
2006 - Jason Fraser, Andrew Yeskie

Dyke Line
2000 - Jared Snawder
2006 - David Bhatta



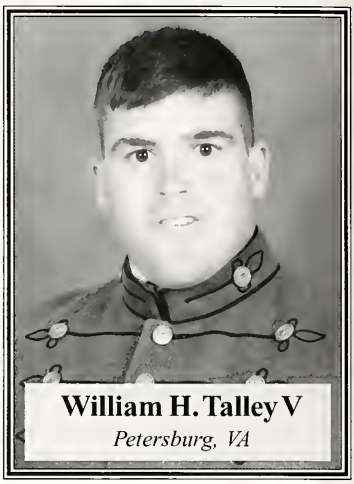
Jared M. Swanson
Hudson, NH

Economics & Business - Air Force



Patrick J. Szvetitz
Valrico, FL

Psychology



William H. Talley V
Petersburg, VA

Economics & Business - Army
Toast, Steelah

General Farrell once told a French class I was attending, "The difference between a VMI cadet and the rest of the world is that a VMI cadet will always choose the most difficult way to do anything. He does this because the difficult way is almost always the best way, and even when it isn't, at least no one can say he took the easy way out." This embodies any VMI cadet from the day he/she chooses to come to VMI. We didn't know what to expect, who we would become, or where our cadetships would lead us, but we knew we were choosing a college experience different and vastly more difficult than any other. As a result of our choice, we often hate life at VMI, but whenever outsiders insult our little VMI world, we quickly defend it. Our defense is pride, of who we have become, and what we have accomplished.

For those accomplishments I thank my father, for accidentally leading me here, and my mother, for supporting my decisions. For the difficult times and the good times, I thank my roommates, BRs, rats, and friends. For my pride, I thank the Institute because, in the long-run, it wasn't all bad. I just hope my life will reflect all I have gained from four long years of hard work, and I will make everyone proud. It has been a great and wonderful journey, but this was only the beginning.

DUDE… DUDE HERE…VMI is a tough place and I cant believe I made it.. I couldn't have done it with out a Great Family and Great Friends…I would like to thank my parents for all the support they have given me…and a special thanks to my dad for all the guidance and advice he has given me as I have grown into the man I am today…I would also like to thank VMI for breaking me down and building me back up and showing me the ups and downs of life…To my rat…hang in there and don't let this place get to you…To my boys…I will NEVER forget the times we had together...Whether it was the trips to Radford (want me to talk dirty), Soccer Trips (New York and quarters) JMU (Navy Seals), Wingate (Sandstorms man), OR Florida (ROD I & II, Sebring, Hang Ten)… the only true way to end this is ….OVER THE LINE…MARK IT ZERO SMOKEY…

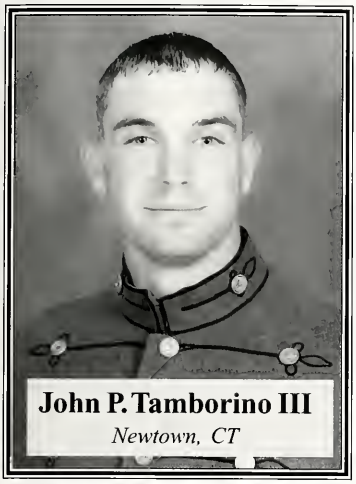
It's going to be strange not being here and having all the guys around anymore. To my brothers in the room Blake, Beast, Brandon we made it! It began with 306 policy and ended up as 122, it started with Karoake and ended as Halo, it was sneaking in beers on the weekend and finished up as the Palms! Without you guys I think I might have had a higher GPA. We were good ol boys, never meaning no harm…beat all you ever saw been in trouble with the law since the day we were born. Without my family's love and support I know I wouldn't have made it, thank you so much. Dad who would have thought 26 years later this would be happening, a Talley with stripes graduating; Mom sorry that you got nasty looks from all the new cadet parents I was just doing my job. To my brothers from the class of '97 you're the best, I couldn't ask for any better friends, you are what makes VMI so great. To my rats Will, Yetti, Chris, & Kyle you guys were awesome keep on getting some and I will see you walk in 3 years. To the guys on the RDC keep on fighting the system, and remember always LET THE BODIES HIT THE FLOOR! The most important thing I learned though: Family and true friends are what mean the most in life. God Bless the Class of 2003 and God Bless the I.

Cadre (1st class year), Lieutenant, SGT, Rat Challenge Cadre (1st class year), Pipe Band Drum Major (2nd and 1st class year), Study Abroad (3rd class year)

Dyke Line
2000 - Kinji Fujita
2006 - Chris Gathmann, Terry Slack

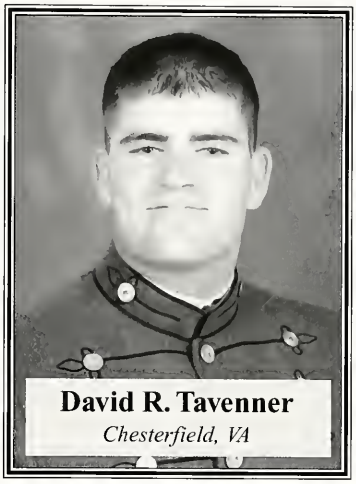
Dyke Line
2000 - Kevin Aldrich
2006 - Bobby Bartolomeo

Dyke Line
2000 - Charlie Towns
2006 - Will Davis



John P. Tamborino III
Newtown, CT

Economics & Business - Army



David R. Tavenner
Chesterfield, VA

History - Army

Heidi H. Theule
Woodland Hills, CA

Chemistry - Army

As the final year winds down, I find it hard to express in words what its been like. I would like to thank my family, Mom, Dad, Marie, Amanda, and Grandpa for always supporting me. You guys are the best, and I couldn't of done it without you. As I think back on the memories I have here, we definitely had some good times. Miami with Dave, we went out in style my man. Pittsburgh games with Eddy, Will, and Ryan. Random two hour conversations, that would make our sides hurt we laughed so hard, with the roomies, Phil, Bert, and Matty. And of course the Lexington excursions, making this town sorry we ever showed up here. To Mel, thanks for all the laughs we had over the years. And to Nicolette, thank you for making my last year here the best one.

Well, ladies and gents, this is it-we have finally made it. I want to wish everyone good luck in the future. Remember boys, "Pain Heals, Chicks Dig Scars, and Glory.....Lasts Forever."

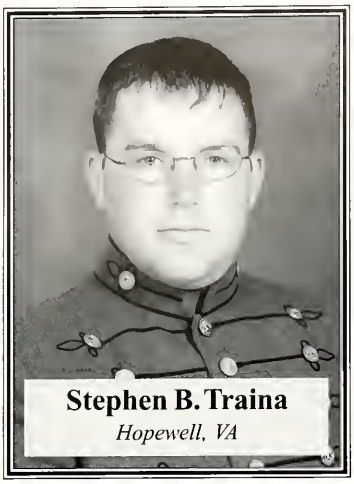
Many people have asked me about the experience at VMI. My universal response used to be "take a situation which created consistent anxiety, inflate it to an absurd degree and you've got VMI". Through the years my attitude began to change due to the environment, which as we all know, grows on you and becomes habitual. Before I showed up, I was clueless on what adversity was, what my limits were, my visions, even my name. The worst part about me though was the inability to make a decision. After consistent efforts from my family to come here and actually have a future I've come to the conclusion that this was an invaluable time. I have become unrecognizable to the person who once was shy, held little confidence, and would have crumbled had he not taken this road. Inarguably it's because I went to a place where adversity became my uninvited best friend. To my family: thank you for your patience, I have truly been spoiled by your influence and support. To my roommates: although you may not necessarily need that intense cultural understanding about the late and great decade known as the "80's", I appreciate your willingness to accept it as well as those remarkable time management skills. This is what will fuel my future, thanks.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Johnathan Long
2006 -

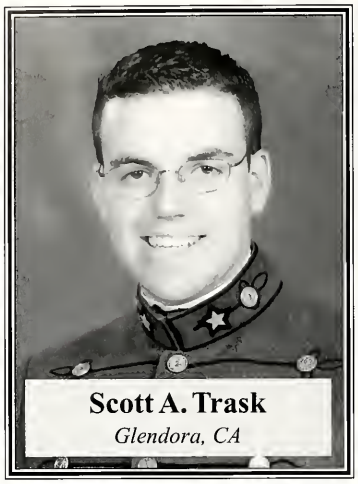
Dyke Line
2000 - Thomas Walker
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Alhaji Bangura
2006 - Berit Oftedahl



Stephen B. Traina
Hopewell, VA

Economics & Business - Army



Scott A. Trask
Glendora, CA

Mechanical Engineering - Navy

Justin S. Trenta
Reston, VA

Electrical Engineering - Army

Over the last 4 years I have met some of the best friends that anyone could ask for. None of this would have been possible without all of the support of my family. Thank you so much for sticking with me through this. Mom and Dad, thanks for everything that you have done for me. Papa and Granny, you mean the world to me and without you I couldn't have done it. To my roommates, it's been a great three years. Through our picking on each other and competing to see who can get the most demerits and not get on conduct pro. It's been a great few years. I will never forget you guys. To room C-30, you guys have treated me like I was one of the roommates. I'm not quite up to par in the dynasty but I was going to catch up eventually. To the rats, thanks for a great year. I know that I have been messy a lot but you guys are great. Just remember not to let this place get you down over the next 3 years. Keep you heads up and get good grades. To everyone that was at Spring Break, it was great and no matter what that lady says we didn't break that stuff. And finally to BN keep on hating.

In April of 1999, my college choices were up in the air. I chose VMI after a lot of thought and prayer hoping that it was the right choice. I have never made a better decision. I could not have imagined what a wonderful journey I was about to embark on, the friends I would make, and the times we would share.

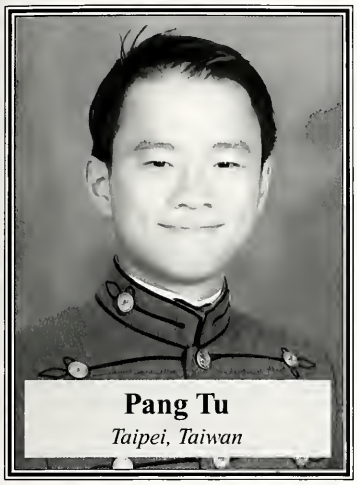
I want to thank everyone who has helped me through for the last four years. Maj. Bell I owe you so much for all your help. To all the ME's, you guys are the greatest group of guys I have ever met, and those endless nights in Nichols were only bearable because of your company. Thank you ME faculty for shaping me into a good student and an effective engineer. Rats, thank you for letting me be a part of your VMI experience. I hope I taught you a little bit about how to be a cadet. Will, Brian, Aaron, and Andrew I was so lucky to have you as roommates, thank you for always being my friends. Lastly I would like to thank my family, it was your unending love and support which helped me through everyday of school. Carl, thank you for leading the way for me. Doug, I hope I have been a good example for you. Mom and Dad I hope I made you as proud of me as I am of you.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Lei Wang
2006 - Michael Rios, Brian Yametti

Dyke Line
2000 - Paul Belmont
2006 - Joe Thorp

Dyke Line
2000 - James Banton
2006 -



Pang Tu
Taipei, Taiwan

Civil Engineering - Army

I want to thank my dad and my mom. Without them I will not be in VMI and I can't even finish this four years. And I want to thanks all my friends. Thank you Matt, for every time you help me. Than you Kuo-Ruey, without you I can't make it through Rat year. Thank you Dale (even you left us here), Levi (STP), Eddy (let's go drink more!!), Janie (don't drink that much), Dao Dao (wu hahahaha…), Tom (you need to eat more food), AJ, Chas, Josh, Paul, and Bohand. All of you are my best friends and thanks everybody else who helped me before. Thank you all.

Brandon H. Turner
Newton, CT

History - Marine Corps

The last four years have passed with a constant battle. The days grew longer and classes became harder. But through it all, I was never alone. I could have never of made it without my parents' constant support. No matter what choices I had made, they back me up every single time. To my roommates Alex and Justin, I couldn't have ever chosen better roommates. Sure we had our bad days, but we had our greatest days in our cellblock. To Chip, you are the smartest man I know, and our friendship shall never end. To the girl, Nichole, I learned much from you that no other girl could have taught me, and only time will tell, but better days are waiting for you kiddo. To my fellow horsemen, God has a day waiting for us. Oceans may separate our bodies, but a bond like none other will always be there and our souls will walk in a valley that others will fear. And lastly to the Class of 2003, my greatest honor has been the privilege to serve each and every one of you. Thank you all, and Semper Fi!
"Brothers, what we do in life echoes an eternity." Gladiator
"…and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given to unto him; and he went forth conquering, and to conquer."
Revelation 6:1-2

Lara M. Tyler
Richmond, VA

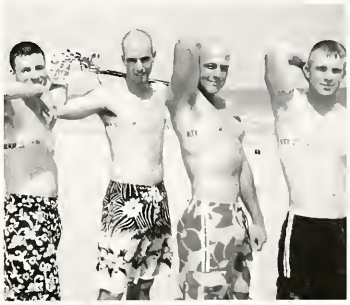
Civil Engineering - Army

I dedicate my graduation from VMI to my family. To my mom who spent countless hours making sure that life was a little more peaceful and to my dad who stuck with me and never gave me the opportunity to give up. To my younger sister, Kristina, who has wisdom beyond her years and to Dougie for always being my comic relief. To my Grandmother for the continuous letters, even after my rat year and to my Uncle Kit and Aunt Jeanne who never forgot a special event and were my biggest fans!
To my Dykes, who were the big brothers I never had, you were the guys that put me on the right track and were always there to give me my much needed 'beatings'.
To Rollin and the Steele Family, for accepting me for who I was and supporting me in anyway you could. I will never forget you all. To my roommates Jen and Nichole for your loyalty, everlasting bond, and friendship. I wish you both great success and a happy future. You are both strong women that will accomplish more than you think.
And lastly to my fiancé, Stuart, who without I would not have come this far. You have made me stronger at my weakest points … So in the words of my cousin and co-engineer, Hoyt, "It's been real and it's been fun, but it hasn't been real fun".

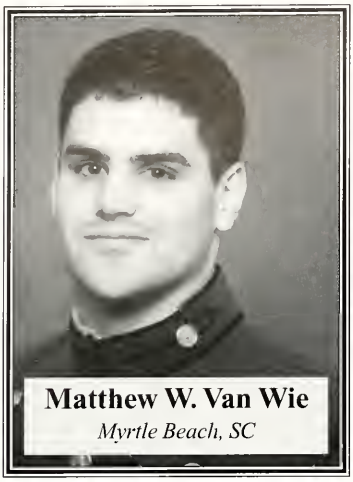
Alpha Company Clerk, Rat Challenge House Mountain/5 Mile Run Cadre, Alpha Company Sergent, Ranger Challenge, Habitat for Humanity, Timberframing, S-7 Captain

Dyke Line
2000 - Jeb Cox
2006 - Michael Rogers, K. Rhee

Dyke Line
2000 - William Ward
2006 -

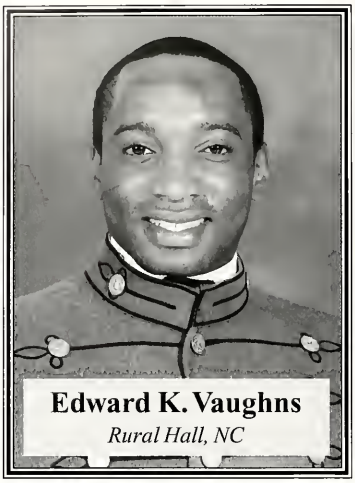


Dyke Line
2000 - Patrick Coyle, Matt Milburn
2006 - Eron Grabowsky, Stephen Souchtchenko



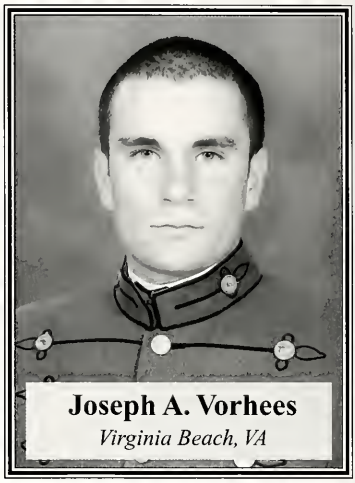
Matthew W. Van Wie
Myrtle Beach, SC

English - Army



Edward K. Vaughns
Rural Hall, NC

Economics & Business - Army
"Ron", "Vaughns The Man"



Joseph A. Vorhees
Virginia Beach, VA

History - Army

To me, the VMI experience has been both the best of times and the worst of times. Oftentimes I felt like I was being blitzed by a barrage of frustration and confusion while sometimes I felt content. I did spend many a sleepless night wondering if I squandered my chance to meet the future Mrs. Matt Van Wie by not going to a "normal" school. Retrospectively however, I am confident that I'm the beneficiary, not the victim because since being at VMI is like being frozen in time—i.e. the scenery, routine and faces that dominate a cadetship never change, I am salivating to leap back on the fast track called life and consume the fruits that I have been deprived of while confined to VMI. For me, life has just begun and I am anxious to start living!

I extend a heartfelt appreciation to my parents for their indomitable support over the last four years and also to my roommates of the past three years for tolerating me, and all of my idiosyncrasies.

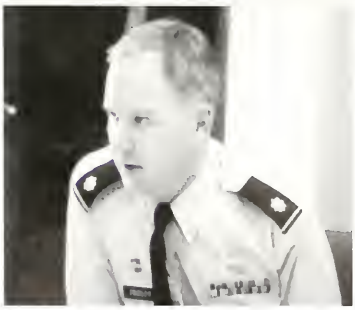
"I'm not lazy, I just don't feel like walking all the way down there" –JS

"I don't care if I learn anything, I just want to graduate" –DT

The past four years have been a great learning experience for me. It's been full of ups and downs and has helped me develop into a man. None of this would be possible without my family, friends, and my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I have met a lot of people here and gained a lot of knowledge. It hasn't been easy (I have bumped my head plenty of times along the way), but I would not change anything that has happened so far because it has been all for the better. I need to thank some people; my father for the toughness, wisdom, guidance and courage he has instilled in me, my mother for all of her love and support, and my sister for being a great friend and someone to talk to. I also want to thank VMI for the opportunity to get an education, play sports, and learn about the military side of life. I know I have left plenty of people off, but you know who you are and I appreciate all your help. Oh yeah, my man LOKALE, you've been true since the 455 days. Stay on the right path cause you will do great things. Thanks for the friendship and "keep poppin them collars!" To all my 172 rats, stay focused and handle your business. To my man Mike locked down, keep your head up. And to my little girl (stormy), I love you. I'm out.

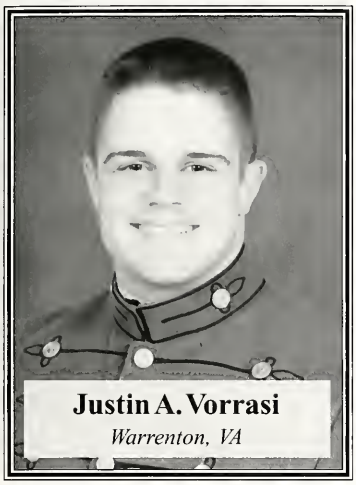
Thanks to all that made VMI somewhat pleasurable. To all my roommates, you guys have made it very interesting. To all the boys in the Sinks, wow did we have a good time. To my rats Alley and Sale, stay out of trouble and make it through. To mom, thanks for all the support, you are great. To my brothers and sisters thanks for all the support especially financially. "Have fun in life because before you know it you will be gone."

Dyke Line
2000 - Gregory Fedor
2006 - Steel J. Nardozzi



Dyke Line
2000 - Derrick Funches
2006 - Gary Price

Dyke Line
2000 - Jack Thornton
2006 - Jeffrey Sale, Joseph Alley



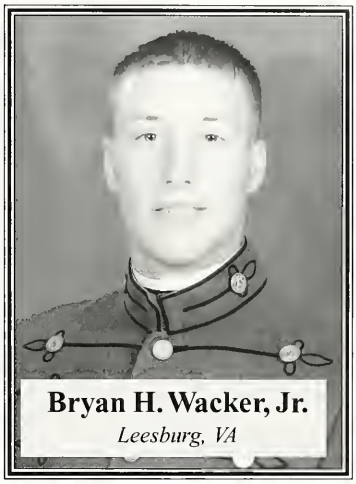
Justin A. Vorrasi
Warrenton, VA

Civil Engineering - Navy
Kitten, Armando

Well, VMI was definitely an experience I will never forget. Have made friends here I will never forget. My friends and I conducting special operations all over Post, but never seem to get caught. Every tunnel on Post has been searched by the few troopers stupid enough to try. Cameron Hall seems to still have problems with the ventilation. Rat line was fun and I don't want to do it again. Third class year was just a blur. Second class year had its bad times and good times. Ring Figure was an awesome experience. First class year, I had the best of times and worst of times. Started a relationship with a certain young lady that would sweep me off my feet. Found out I have no luck with cars at all. Can't forget the roomies Brandon, Alex, and of course Josh. Brandon still can't stop joking around with everybody and making everyone laugh. Alex, who could sleep through a hurricane, is still getting phone calls from Kelly late at night, except now Brandon and I can't be there to make farm animal noises . Josh, who was in my room more than me, is probably out doing the funky chicken with some hooters girl. So many people to talk about yet only stories will remain. VMI has definitely changed me to somebody who doesn't care what people think and to speak my mind because life is too short to not to tell people how you feel about them.

Civil Engineering Major; 3rd Corporal; Master Sergeant;Executive Officer; Strength and Fitness Team; Honor Court

Dyke Line
2000 - Jeremy Berry
2006 - Seth, Kyle, Dan



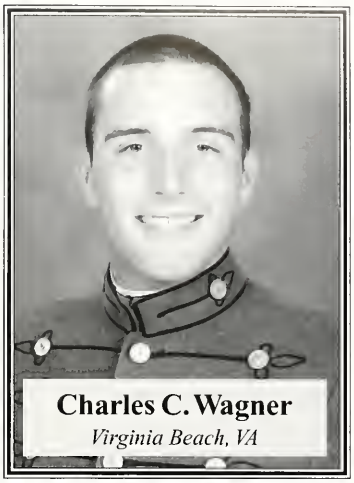
Bryan H. Wacker, Jr.
Leesburg, VA

Psychology - Army
BDUB , Wacknuts

May 16th will be one of the most glorious days of my life, but also one of the worst. To BN– never let the terrors of the Institute overcome our ways. The A-Team– Everyday is a Training Day. To the Rats – Remember what your dykes taught you and never drink from the cup that poisons this institute so horridly. Stay true to what we taught you and never lose sight. To the Crew– Never let the memories fade, Spring Break, the Dynasties, nothing will ever replace those times. To the Roomies–I can't imagine what the "I" would have been like without you. Dan–I think you might have a problem, seek help. Matt – Stay away from those Latin Ladies, and remember not to drink the water. Dave–Something tells me I will be seeing a lot of you in the future. Phil "the thrill" –You definitely have a problem, and there is no helping you. Long live the President! To my Family–You have been there for me through everything; I could never repay you for what you have done for me over the last 21 years. Words cannot express my gratitude and respect I have for you. Lastly, Andrea–You were always there for me, driving 6 hours a day to pick me up, just to drop me off hours later. The short visits, the letters and packages and the agony of distance. But it's all over, and now we can be together every day, every minute, every second.

Rat – 4; Rat Challenge Cpl., 5th Cpl. – 3; Ops. Sgt. – 2; XO – 1; C – 30 Dynasties – 2,1; C&C General – 3-Generals Unite; Beta Nu- 3,2,1; A-Team – 2,1

Dyke Line
2000 - Jason Cole
2006 - Charles Lindsey



Charles C. Wagner
Virginia Beach, VA

Mechanical Engineering - Army

Wow!! I can't believe i'ts over. I survived an A-1, Number 1 and an assortment of other penalties along the way. It would not have been possible with out the love and support of my friends and family, especially my mom and sisters and most of all my dad watching over me from up above. To all the great friends I made along the way, you guys are the greatest. Ed, Steve these past four years would not have been as wild without you. All the late night partying was crucial to survival here. To Nick, Matt, Tu and Puppy, what would I have done without you guys. Spring Breaks in Cocoa Beach, FL and Va Beach were the shizznit. To my ME buddies, thanks for all the help these past few years, there isn't a finer group of guys at this place. And finally to Meghan, thanks for being there for me this year, you are wonderful.

"The fireworks begin today. Each diploma is a lighted match. Each one of you is a fuse." Ed Koch

Dyke Line
2000 - Daniel Alvarez
2006 - Joseph Ametetti

Lars H. Wagner
Tionesta, PA

Civil Engineering - Army

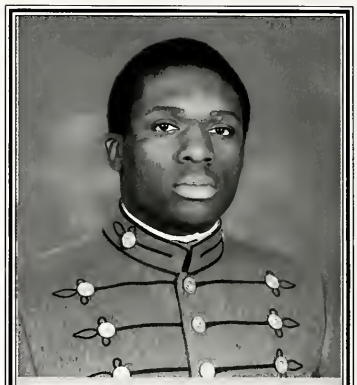
Now approaches the day for which we have all been so patiently waiting. I cannot believe how far we (the class of '03) have come. What I have learned here far surpasses the capacity of an education at any other school. I will leave VMI with far more than a diploma. I am departing with honor, character, discipline, pride, and whole lot more. I will never forget the great friends I have made here and everything we've done together. A special thanks goes out to my roommates Mark, Craig, and Rollin. You guys have been like brothers to me. We've been through a lot together, good times and bad. I don't know how I lived with you goofy bastards over the years, but I couldn't have made it without you. I would also like to thank the Civil Engineering Department for their dedication to my education, the football team for a great season, the regimental staff for nothing, the administration for their never ending harassment, Maj. Bissel for the A-1, Sgt. Major Hockaday for the motivation, the mess hall for the fine dining, and the Class of 2003 for being the best damn class in barracks. Most importantly, I would like to thank my Mother, Father, Sister, Brother and God. I could not ask for a better family. I would have never made it without your love, guidance and encouragement. You are the foundation beneath my every achievement

ASCE President, Dean's List, OGA, A-1 Club, 1st Class Private

Matthew C. Waite
Alexandria, VA

Economics & Business - Navy

Well we finally made it. To the group, you all know who you are, I just wanted to say good luck with your lives and I wish you the best. I want to say thank you for helping me out too. You all mean a lot to me. To my roomates especially. Chop, Phil, and Tambo, thanks a lot guys I wouldn't have gone through all of this if you all weren't right there with me. I also want to thank my parents for all their support.



David Walker, Jr.
Chesapeake, VA

Economics & Business - Army
Walkdog, Walk, D dub, Fatbaby

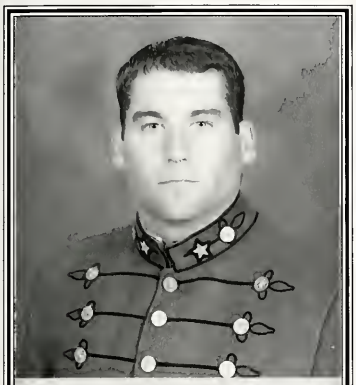
What was I thinking? At least I met some cool catz here. Probably the best peeps I'll ever meet. Good luck to everyone who's gettin out. Hook me up with a job when I finally get out after my 6 years here, just jokin, I'll find a job after my 6 years here. Wrestling team, I would say good luck to ya'll but I'll be here to talk trash to other teams so I don't need to. You RDC boyz better terrorize, you know how we do. G-Unit...you all know how we do, nuff said. Hollywood/Hardchargin-hotel- I'll hold down the fort when ya'll bounce out. 03' ...ya'll represent like we know how to.

Promaji Club, Japanese Club, Wrestling Team, Chess Team, Vice President of FDJA

Dyke Line
2000 - Sean Foley
2006 - Lewis Bartholomew

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Jose Goncalves

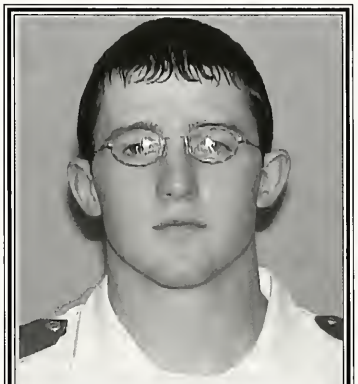
Dyke Line
2000 - Nicholas Mollenhauer
2006 - Jeremiah Gaudette, Paul Neumann



Christopher C. Walsh
Lima, OH

Civil Engineeing - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.



Brandon C. Waltrip
Lightfoot, VA

Biology - Army

I came here with a number of hopes and ambitions, many were accomplished and others were not. I'm leaving here with even more hopes and ambitions, only time will tell which ones become a reality. I have proved time and again that pts, confinement, and excessive demerits have no effect on my mental capacity for happiness. To the rats I've known only a short time, remember,there are greater things circling than the sentinal around his box. Never idle, always win. To my co-matriculants we've shared more then a pocket full of conversations. Chemistry 4 Life, Cadet Waitor 4 Life, and I'm The Kid 4 Life.

Brian J. Ward
Novi, MI

Economics & Business - Army

They say time flies when you are having fun. So why does it seem like these last four years have gone by so quickly? After my first year, I decided not return and would not be here writing this history, if it weren't for the lacrosse guys. Thanks for being there Tommy, Matt, Mike, and Taylor. Coming back from England with a new outlook and a fat body, I was lucky to find the roommates that I did. Thank you Tommy, Matt and Brendan for there was never a dull moment in the room. To my rats Dan and Kelley, thanks for making my senior year as lazy as possible and for keeping a good attitude. So many people helped me throughout the years. But most of all, I would like to thank my family for their support. I am grateful to have such loving and understanding parents. To my host parents, Brian and Vickie, thank you for being there and for helping me through the tough times.

Dyke Line
2000 - John Ferguson
2006 - Todd Baldwin, John Lowery

Dyke Line
2000 - Matt McDaniel
2006 - JJ Hollenbeck, PJ Neumann

Dyke Line
2000 - Matt Kukla, Tony Saraceni
2006 - Kelley DeNeen, Dan Frank

Melissa S. Ward
Fairfax, VA

Economics & Business - Army

Douglas B. Warner
Alum Creek, WV

Economics & Business - Army
Douggie-Cheese

Martin J. Wasielewski
Mineral, VA

Psychology - Army

I'm going to miss the crazy atmosphere and the people who have made me who I am today. Tambo, you've been the best friend someone could ever have. Thanks for the wild times; Insomnia, the beach, our random conversations, etc. You will always be in my thoughts. Matt, we've finally made it. Hey, LAST TOUCH! Nicolette, we've come this far, why not go all the way huh? You've been my stepping-stone in this place we call life, please remember I am your strength and will be here for you til the end. Hey, maybe we'll be stationed together someday. Martha and family, I don't know how I would have made this place without you. As my confidant, advisor, shoulder to cry on, mom, and best friend you have provided me sanity to get through all I've been through. I'll be back don't worry! Justin, I don't know where we'll be after this but thank you…for everything you've done for me. I will never forget you. Abby, my baby girl, remember that you are stronger than you think. Thank you for being there for me through thick and thin, and I've definitely had my share of thick. As much as we've been through together, this next step in our lives should be cake. I love you to the moon and back baby. Daddy, I'm here. I'm finally ready to be on my own. You have been the best dad a girl could possibly ask for. I know we've had our share of hard times, but it's those hard times that have brought us this close. The woman I am now is the woman you've helped me to become. Thank you for your patience and your unconditional love. I love you more than you will ever know. I'M OUT VMI!

First and foremost, I want to thank God for giving me the strength, wisdom and resolve to make it through these long four years. There's a saying that goes something like this: Nobody likes being at VMI, but everyone likes being from VMI." I think this is a distortion of the truth. I am glad I am at VMI, and I will definitely be glad to be from VMI. I have learned to always put honor first, and while facing daily challenges and discomfort, to look for the good in things and to keep my head held high. I have shared the feelings of pride and responsibility as a leader, but also the feelings of humility and patience as a follower. This is the greatest institution in the world, and despite what a cadet on four months confinement might say, they will realize how great VMI is one day too – I am just glad I realize it now. Mom and Dad, thank you for always being there for me! James, Tony and Dave – you were the greatest dykes I could have asked for; you taught me so much about myself and about VMI. James, Bubba and Dermot – First Class year was great in Studio 154! To my past roommates, Matt, Tommy, Phil, Kyle, Mike, and Dave – we had some great times…thanks for the memories! Jon and Shaun – stay strong, focused, and continue to look ahead to the light at the end of the tunnel. To the Class of 2003, you will be in my heart and mind forever – take care and God bless!

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Cross Country, Ring Figure Committee, Bataan Death March

Dyke Line
2000 - Jeffrey Rhodes
2006 - Jamaila Barrantes, Joselyn Wall,

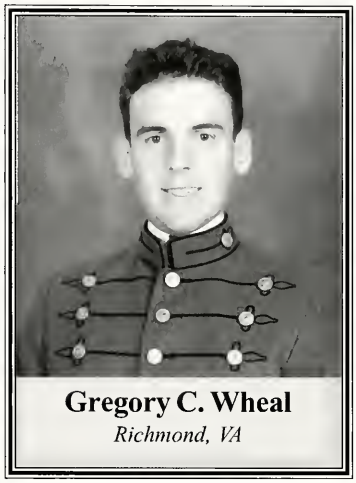
VMI Fencing Team – 4,3,2,1; Fencing Team Captain – 2,1; VMI Glee Club – 4,3,2,1; VMI Glee Club Vice President – 2,1; GC Class Treasurer – 3,2,1; Ring Figure Committee – 3,2; Cadre – 2,1; Color SGT – 2; Academic Mentor – 2; Cadet Investment Group – 1

Dyke Line
2000 - James Wallace
2006 - Shaun Driver, Jonathan Mayhew

Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Jessica Fulton

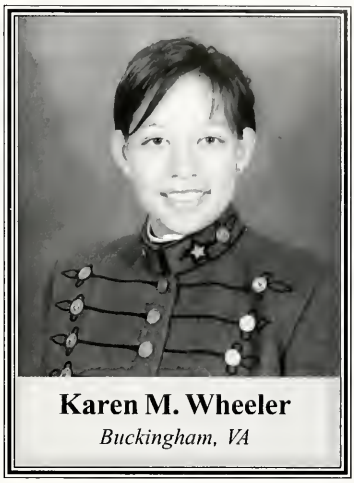
Nicolette L. Weaver
Cocoa, FL

International Studies - Marine Corps



Gregory C. Wheal
Richmond, VA

History - Air Force



Karen M. Wheeler
Buckingham, VA

Biology - Army

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

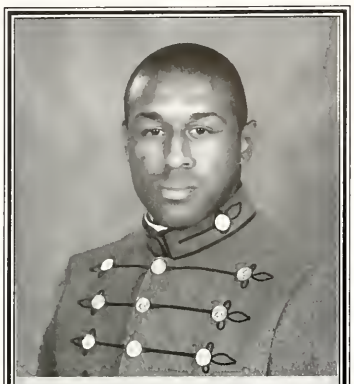
When I matriculated in August '99 I never expected to join the military. VMI taught me the value and honor of service to one's country. I would like to thank Capt. Romasz, Capt. Shea, Capt. Wilborne for encouraging me to join the Air Force and become an officer. Col. Levenson and SGM Neel, I owe you a debt of gratitude for not boning me out of school. You saw a potential officer under the poor shave, unshined shoes, and long hair. Over the last four years, I have made some truly great friends. Steve, Colin, chris, Brad, Bill, Nate, and Phil, I thank you for your friendship. Brad, your drinking and manwhoring are qualities we should all strive for. Steve, the force is strong....tail gates and benders at the Palms wouldn't have been the same without you. A portion of this profile must be given to the BDT. To Nate, Chris, and Phil it was truly an honor to be a part of this drinking fraternity. Phil Esco, you are gone, but not forgotten. Marc, you were a great rat. The true value and rewards of the VMI experience can only be seen when you graduate. Stick with it, things will get better. If you ever have a problem, need a favor, or just want a free during, call me.

What can I say Karen? Four years have passed by. I remember how we used to think it would never end. Those hellish workouts we endured didn't quite help. I remember the first time we met at the interviews, our stars must have been aligned just right because who knew we would spend four years as bio majors, long distance runners, and friends? Going back through the years we have endured the stress of mile repeats and O-chem, as well as the good times: long run days, Ring Figure, and UVA. I will never forget the three Musketeers or the dependable duo, the dramatic summer of 2002, and our adventure to Vegas. Next year I won't have my running buddy, you will be training for the big race as a research physician at UVA. Just remember there will be hard and easy days and that you did it once, you can do it again. Thank you for listening, your insight on clothing and other aspects of life, and most of all thank you for the memories. Next time pick only WINNERS!
—Alia

Dyke Line
2000 - David Epperly
2006 - Joselyn Wall

Dyke Line
1999 - Shaun Hall, Lars Peterson, Cliff Ford
2003 - Marc Antonelli

Dyke Line
2000 - James Powell
2006 -



Daniel A. Whitehall
Wellington, FL

History - Army

Jan K. Wierzbicki
Palmer, AK

Civil Engineering - Army

Erik Wilkerson
Terre Haute, IN

International Studies - Marine Corps

"Champions aren't made in gyms, champions are made from something they have deep inside them- a desire, a dream, a vision, they have to have the skill and the will. But the will must be stronger than the skill
—Muhammad Ali

First of all, I would like to thank my father for setting a great example for me. I had no clue what I wanted to do when I came to VMI, so I figured that following my dad's example would at least give me a good head start until I had any real interests of my own (besides video games!) I couldn't of made it without my mother, and my sister's support. Thank you Babcia, I know I always have a place to go whenever I need to relax and eat kielbasa, and thank you Fanna and Michaela for getting me in shape (and thank you Jose and Heidi for always being so generous!). I met my second family my 3rd class year, The Hovlands. I got to live at their house and eat their food, and they got to add another dependent on their taxes! I also met the woman who I plan on spending the rest of my live with (Tana!). My 2nd class year was the year of the geo lab (yeah Apang, Adam, and Eddie!) 1st class year Joe, Chat, Brandon and I got 1 rat (Pom!) and 3 other guys who would appear at random through the year, but they were cool anyways (Jon, Nelson, Cliff!) I made frequent trips to Phila to see my girl, and actually became interested in history and politics (Thanks Cpl. Wineman!). I feel now that it is finally time to go, I'll miss the people…but not the place.

"The Heights of Great Men

Reached and Kept,

Were Not Obtained by Sudden Flight.

But They, While Their Companions Slept,

Were Toiling Upwards in the Night."

HWL

PRIDE, PASSION, INTEGRITY, EXCELLENCE

A life without regret is the only way to live.

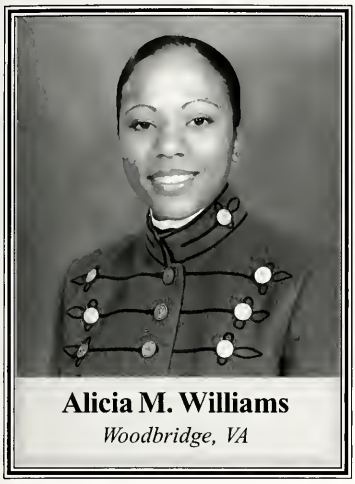
Soccer

VMI Honors Program, ODK Honor's Society, PKPHonor's Society; Who's Who"; Academic Mentor; President Timmons Gentry Music Society; English Society; Cadet Investment Group 4,3,2; Model Arab League; Strength and Fitness Club

Dyke Line
2000 - Derrick Funches
2006 - Bryan Winter

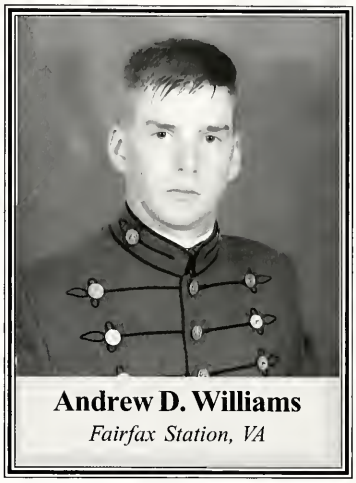
Dyke Line
2000 - William Davis
2006 - Nelson Alger

Dyke Line
2000 - Christopher Walker
2006 -



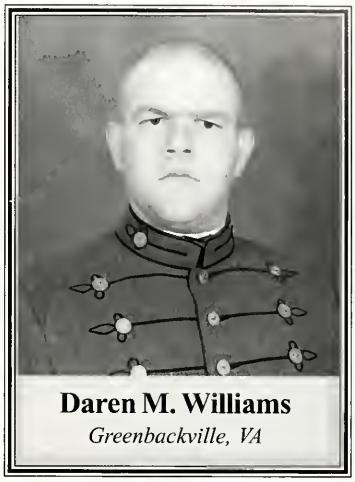
Alicia M. Williams
Woodbridge, VA

Biology - Army



Andrew D. Williams
Fairfax Station, VA

Economics & Business - Army



Daren M. Williams
Greenbackville, VA

Civil Engineering - Army

To my fellow shopping addict, culinary critic and indulger what would the last critical years of VMI have been like without you? We can only bask in the relief that such a time was narrowly adverted and both our lives, in all aspects, were saved from the fiery pits of isolation and Institute-induced insanity. I remember the countless movies that we watched and cried over on your rack, I smile, remembering the moments of pure joy, fulfillment and belonging that we three experienced in that tiny room. Even while writing this, and perhaps reading it later, I finally realize that we will never again experience happiness, comfort, and true friendship as the years we spent as roommates. I can only thank fate for bringing Al and me to you, or perhaps vice versa. I know I'm a history and English superfreak, but here's some smartly math stuff just for you- a tripod is one of the most stable structures to support an object in the center. As you, Al and I embody each leg of the tripod our friendship will always be strong, holding up our love for each other in a steadfast allegiance. You allowed my spirit to sing its truest song while, helping me to realize the gift of true friendship. I send with this all of my love and good intentions and assure you that the pictures of our friendship will always be imprinted in my heart.
Your BR, Friend and Sister-for-life, Ruth.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Dyke Line
2000 - Derrick Funches
2006 - Adrian Cmerek, Lezshell Mackall

Dyke Line
2000 - Augustine Ekpoudom
2003 - Edward Cook

Dyke Line
2000 - Bruce Taylor
2006 - Kirk Steiner

Donald L. Williams
Elkton, WV

Economics & Business - Army

David C. Woody
Lexington, VA

History - Army

Adam J. Wymer
Richlands, VA

Civil Engineering - Navy

First and foremost I want to thank the Lord for helping me make it through four years at the "I." Its been only through his good graces that I've made it through the life of a VMI Cadet. VMI has been full of trying and aggravating times. But with the bad has come some good as well and it's those good times that will stay wilth me through the coming years. For my family, thanks for all your support and encouragement. Dad, you have been the best example a son could follow, thank you for all your guidance and love. The lessons I've learned from you have been of much help during my time here. To all my friends, it has been fun, I've certainly learned something from you all, and shared plenty of laughs as well. Wes, we've finally made it! From kindergarten to 1st classmen we have been through it all together. Thanks for being a friend and brother to me. Rats, keep your heads up and don't let anything about VMI get you down. "Everything ends," the good and the bad, always remember that and prepare for the future. "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak…but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:29,31.

I came to the "I" thinking that I had a pretty good idea of what the VMI experience was all about and made it a goal to at least try to measure up to those in my family who came before me. With that said, I want to thank my father and my uncle for being those people. Leaving this place is going to be hard, but I will take with me the memories of the greatest times of my life and the best friends I have had and will ever have. Phil, Dan, Matt, and Bryan – The three years of living together will be missed the most, and the room will for the first time go on a permanent vacation from each other for a period of more than a month. Court – Keep the Faith. Rats – Don't forget anything we've taught you. Stay away from the enemy. BN – We held the ideals AND walked the path that fewer and fewer take, and are a dying breed. A-Team – Maybe it's time to admit we have a problem. I couldn't have done it without God blessing me with the opportunity to do so. Thanks also go out to my family for their support, those here and now gone, and also to you Denise. Lastly, to the roomies and the rest of the gang: Some might say that we had too much fun. They're right. But I wouldn't have had it any other way…Rock and Roll.
"I have fought the good fight, I have remained true to course, I have kept the faith." 2Ti, 4:7

In the four years and two summers that I've been here VMI is truly an odd place. I came to VMI because I wanted to, "walk the path that's less traveled." Boy did I ever get to walk that path and whole lot more. Rat year was a pain, but looking back it was a HELL of a time. Third class year flat out sucked. BUT in that same year I got the keys to the Geo-Lab (a.k.a. The Lounge) where I've spent the most of my cadetship and developed a permanent case of insomnia. Anyway, second-class year had its highs and lows. Ring Figure was obviously the high. Spring semester was a stressful time, in which the phrase "D is for Diploma" was coined. 1st class year was great until Fridley came into my life much like a virus, but it's okay I didn't want to go anywhere during the Spring anyway. Will I miss VMI, for the most part yes? It was nothing like what I thought it would be, nor did things turn out the way I thought they would. In fact I don't think anybody expected things to turn out this way. Did it make me a better person? Only time will tell, but I have changed. Thank you Mom and Dad for your support and getting me through this, I couldn't have done it without you. For those of you that were there and can remember, they were good times, they were appalling times, but for those of you who weren't there you'll never know…

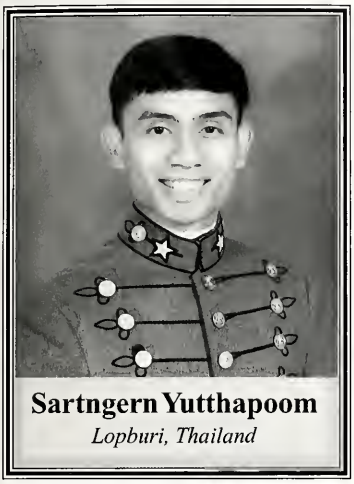
Soccer

Rat-4; Honor Court: AP-2, VPI-1; Cadre: CPL-3, MSGT-2, Battalion CO-1; Pre-CDQC-3; Ac. Pro-1; Ranger Challenge/ Sandhurst-4; Ranger Co.-4, 2; Beta Nu-3, 2, 1; VMI Leadership Program Executive Council-2, 1; Leadership Initiative Task Force-2; A-Team-2, 1;

Dyke Line
2000 - Micah Chandler
2006 - Derek Behney, Adam Glassick

Dyke Line
2000 - Jake Wilson
2006 - Scott Donald

Dyke Line
2000 - Harold Caples
2006 - John Graham

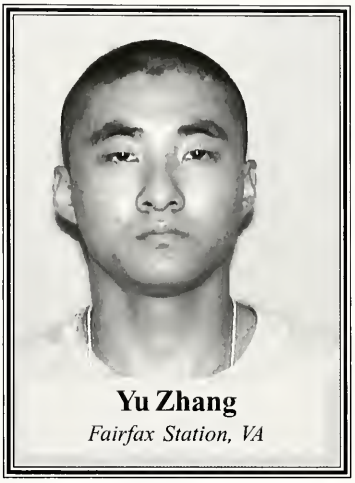


Sartngern Yutthapoom
Lopburi, Thailand

Electrical Engineering - Army
PoomPoom

I remember the time when our dykes were graduating. I felt that it would be very far away for us. But here we are; we are graduating. No more pain from staying up to two in the morning doing homework and lab, i.e. "Control" and "Communication." No more Peter Choi's favorite quote "I'm so tired." No more waking up at night because Justin Trenta was having some kind of dream and saying it out loud. In case I don't see you again, HAVE A NICE LIFE MY BR'S.

FREE YOUR BODY AND MIND
UNFOLD YOUR POWERFUL WINGS
CLIMB UP THE HIGHEST MOUNTAINS
KICK YOUR FEET UP IN THE AIR
YOU MAY NOW BE FREE FROM VMI
OR RETURN TO IT
UNLESS YOU FEEL GOOD WHERE YOU ARE



Yu Zhang
Fairfax Station, VA

Computer Science - Air Force

It is the sailor not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier not the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, the sailor, the airman, the marine who salute the flag, who serve under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, that allows protesters to burn the flag.

Joseph M. Ziadeh
Midlothian, VA

Civil Engineering - Army

Through life's unexpected twists and turns I have still been able to make it. It took the help of a lot of people but I specially want to thank my parents, without their unconditional love and support I don't think I could have made it. Now looking back at some of the funny memories rather then bring back the unpleasant ones here is a recap of my cadetship.
Rat year: what crazy BRF/roommate would have the nerve to throw all my clothes out of my wall locker then try to climb in bed with me? Having 1st corporal Matt Thompson do push-ups in surveying class. Third class year: cool roommates but a bad year GC, HC, wet toilet paper video cameras, and chess games. Second class year: how is it possible to miss the VMI/Citadel game when five other cadets are staying at George's house with you? Getting caught by fat weaver the first weekend after the Governor grants the corps amnesty. Best memory Panama City Spring Break 02!!
First class year: Field trip to the ASCE conference in DC then late night to Club Camelot. Having L-train sneak up behind you in Wal-Mart while pretend he's happy to see me then boning me. Oh yes, I will miss the memories but not the four semesters of confinement or PT's. So now looking back at my cadetship would I do it all over again? Sure why not!

VMI football 99-01; Power Lifting Club 01-03; Title IX Representative 03

Dyke Line
2000 - Kenny Myers
2006 -

Dyke Line
2000 - Jeffrey Reddington
2003 -

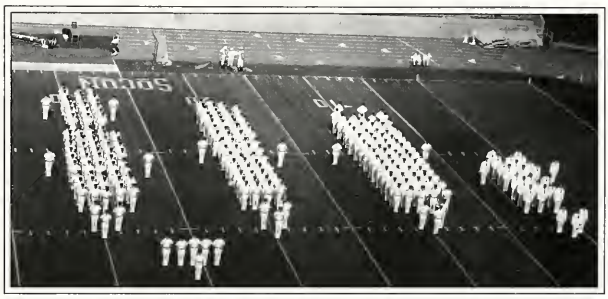
Dyke Line
2000 - Joseph Setina
2006 - Michael Child, John Mundt

Bryan M. Zollinger
Jennette, PA

Computer Science - Air Force

First, I would like to thank my family for their undying support throughout the years. Mom, Dad, I don't think I would have ever made it out of this hellhole if weren't for the love and guidance you gave me, thanks. As for the people I have gotten to know over the past four years I will never forget you, as for the people I didn't get to know, there was probably a reason for it. As for everything else I think Stephen Ambrose sums it up best with one word. Chickenshit.
"Chickenshit refers to the behavior that makes military life worse than it need be; Petty harassment of the weak by the strong, open scrimmage for power and authority and prestige, sadism thinly disguised as necessary discipline, a constant paying off of old scores; and insistence on the letter rather than the spirit of ordinances. Chickenshit is so called instead of horse- or bull- or elephant shit, because it is small-minded and ignoble and takes the trivial seriously."

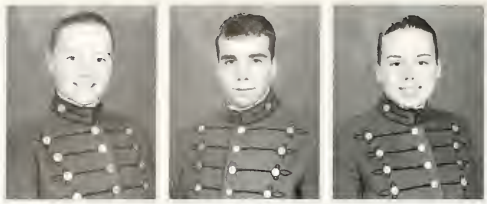
Dyke Line
2000 -
2006 - Curtis Ivins



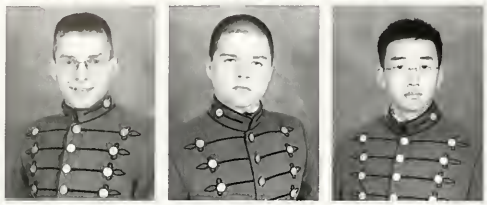
2004

Second Class

Bree Adams
Joel Andrus
Erica Ardolino

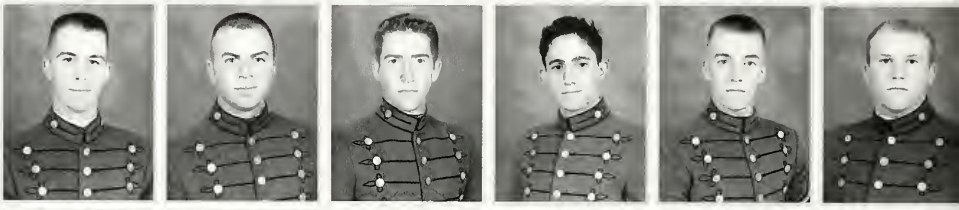


William Ayers
Steven Ball
Michael Bang

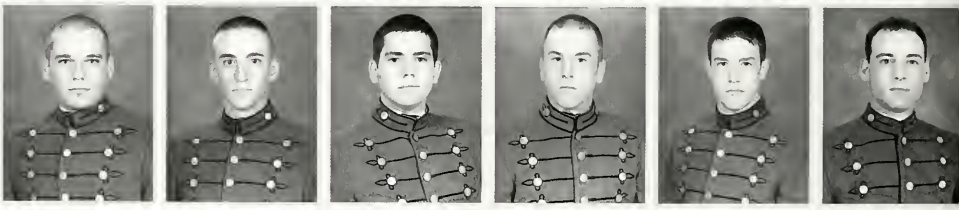


Brent Banks
Andrew Barrett
Thomas Beale

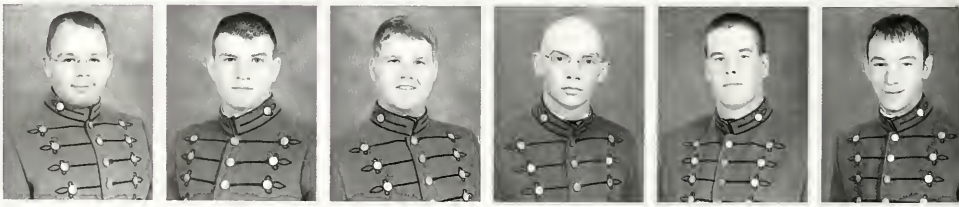
James Bean
Ryan Beatley
James Beckwith
Sophien Ben-Achour
Peter Bennett
John Berg



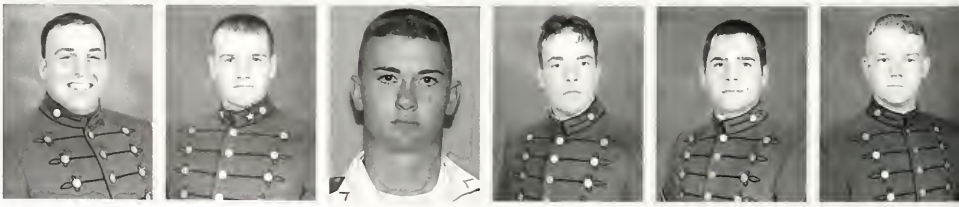
Hamilton Bice
Justin Bierens
Lakin Board
Edwin Bodenheim
Jason Boone
Brandon Boor



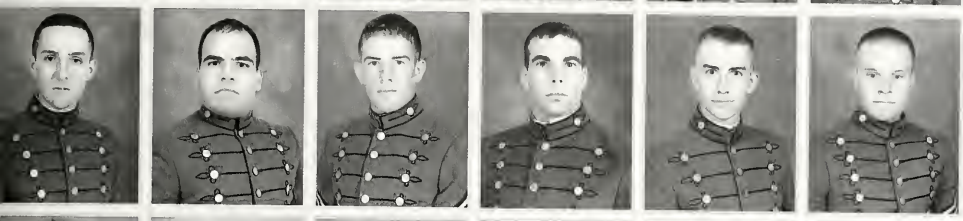
Derric Borthwick
Paul Boulden
Marion Brawley
Jason Brightwell
Jason Brinkmoeller
Jarrett Brown



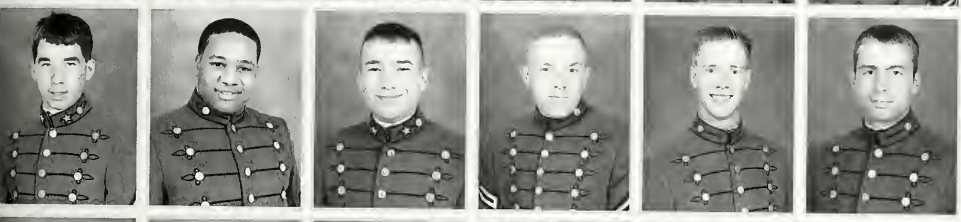
Sam Brown
David Bruton
Mark Buhl
Peter Burke
Matthew Cage
Scott Campbell



Graham Carssow
John Casper
Alison Cassell
Dave Casteel
Maja Cavlovic
Edward Chen

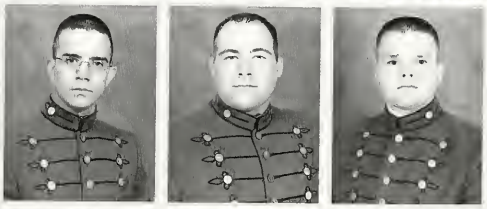


Nathan Cincala
Emanuel Ciudadreal
Lincoln Clark
Michael Coakley
John Cobb
Philip Cole

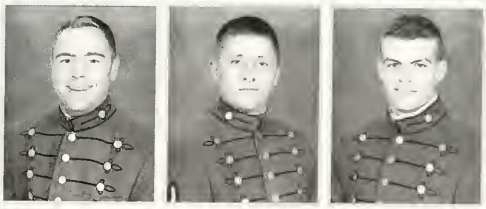


David Coleman
Jason Conley
Richard Connaroe
Ryan Consaul
Edward Cooper
Michael Corso

Jason Cox
Shelley Cox
Daniel Cragg
Dennis Crennan
Travis Crittenden
Andrew Cunningham



George Cushman V
Joseph Cuthbertson
Gary Cutler, Jr.



Eric Damon
Brock Daniel
Jason Daniels

Jonathan Davis
Natasha Davis
Ross Davis

Terrance DeGray
Thomas DeShazor
Joseph DiDomenico
Noah Diehl
Joseph Doane
Jason Dorn

Brian Douglas
Sean Duggan

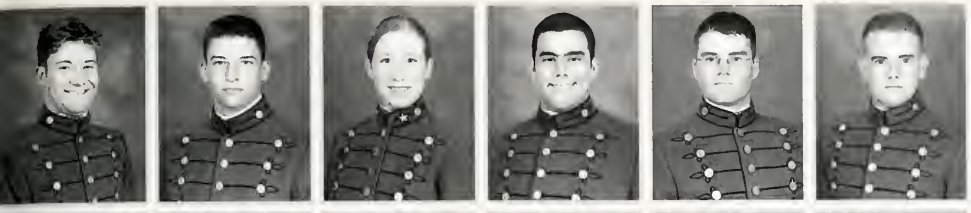
Jonathan Dumas
Drew Eland

Timothy Erwin
Phillip Esco

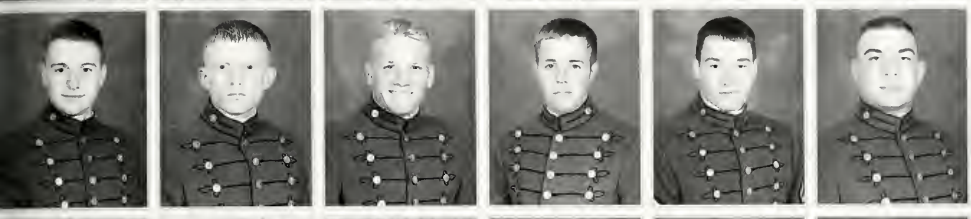
Jacob Fauber
Timothy Felts
Tamara Ferguson
Joshua Fox
Andrew Frazier
Edward Freeman

Bryson Gambill
Ross Garnett
Nathan Gilbert
John Ginder
Hrvoje Glasnovic
Stanley Gochenour

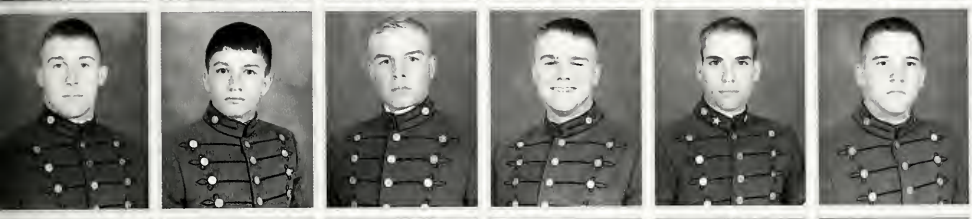
Geoff Goldsmith
Douglas Goodall
Brian Gould
Mariah Green
John Gregory
Michael Gregory



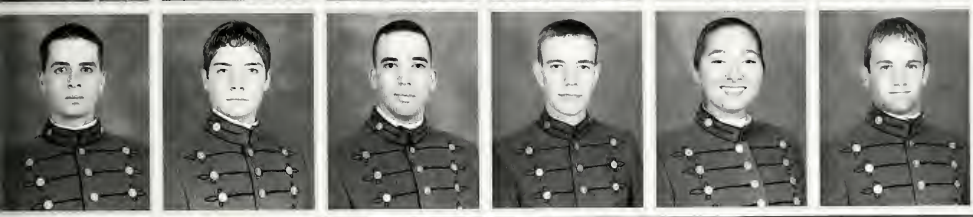
Robert Gregory
Jonathan Hadra
Jillian Hafer
Justin Hairston
Daniel Hall
Adam Halstead



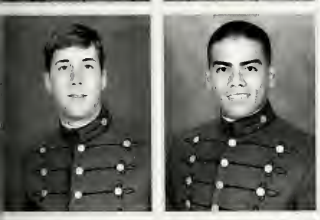
Craig Hamilton
Mark Hamilton
James Hardin
Winston Harrell
Andrew Harris
Benjermin Harris



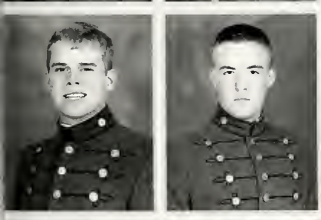
David Harris
Morgan Harris
Benjamin Hassell
John Haywood
Eric Hepfer
Andrew Hickman



Johnathan Hicks
Robert Hinkel
Jeffrey Hocutt
Keith Holman
Elizabeth Holthouser
Bryan Jackson



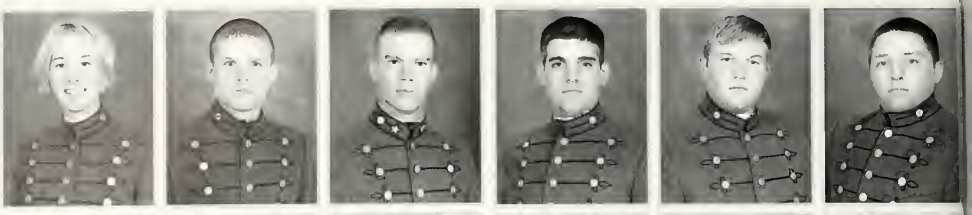
Terrell Jackson
Roderick James



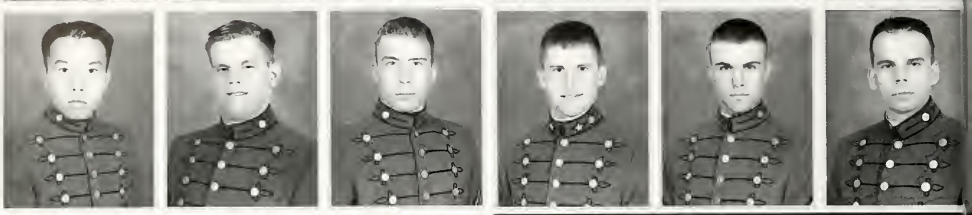
David Jennings
Harley Jennings

Aarika Johnson
Chris Johnson

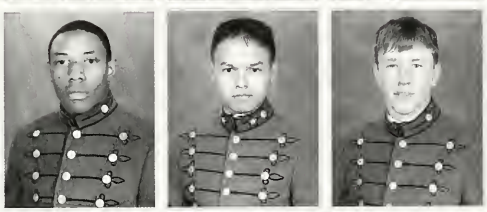
Sarah Johnson
Jonathan Jones
Nathanael Joslyn
Charles Karamon
William Kastelberg V
Stephen Kaufman



Chi-Wen Ke
Charles Keesee
David Kendzior
Peter Kent
Stan Kielczewski
Slava Kirillov



Michael Kirk
Thananart Klongcheongsan
Ryan Koziol

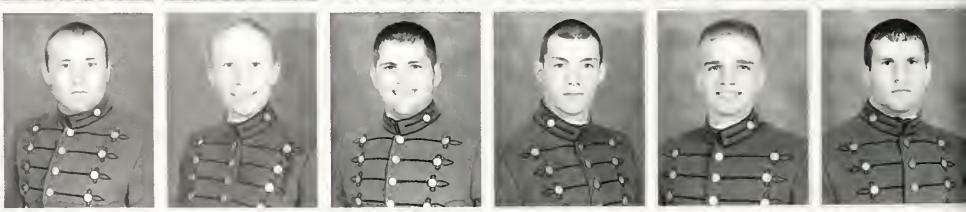


Ilija Krklec
Cyrus Kump
Raymond L'Heureaux

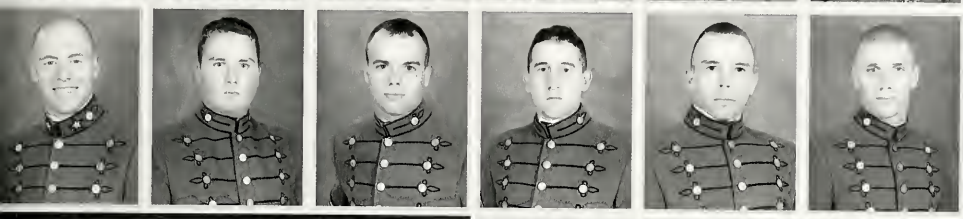
Richard Lalomia
Andrew Lander
Vincent Laorenza

Conley Laster IV
Chad Lavender
Pei-Chun Lee
Caleb Lee III
Johnathan Lessen
Gary Lewin

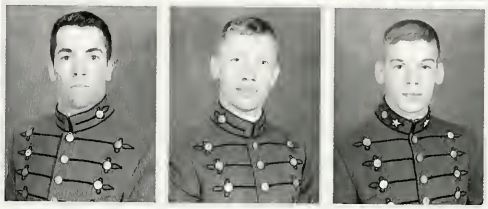
Matt Liffick
eigh-Anne Lindenmuth
Stephen Linkous
Brent Long
Jaden Lowry
Brian Malast



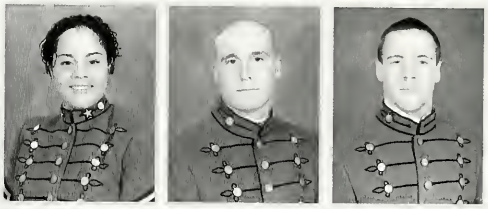
Stephen Martin
Sean McElroy
Michael McHugh
Michael McLaughlin
Robb Metz
Matthew Mikula



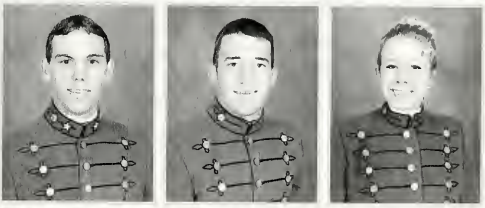
Anthony Miller
Rory Miller
Kent Monas
Joseph Montagna
Joshua Montero
Joshua Mulford



Charles Munn
Benjamin Nehrke
Alex Nicoloff

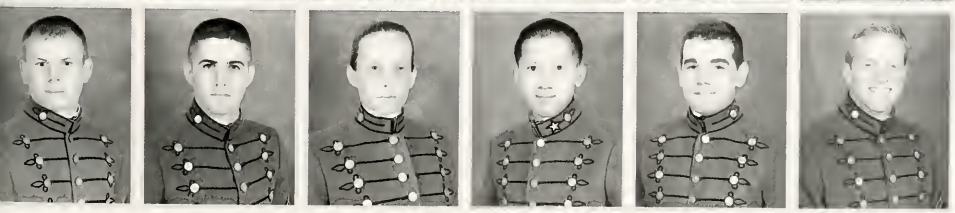


Deanna Nieves
Brian Niven
Timothy Nixon



Daniel Northcraft
Sean O'Donnell
Elizabeth Olson

Samuel Orr
Josh Owens
Francis Palaia
James Palmer
Matthew Park
David Paul



Jonathan Pax
Anthony Peters
Amanda Phelps
Thanphisit Phongsai
Maurice Pipkin
David Poldiak

Ring Figure

Second Class Ring Figure Magazine

Class of 2004

The class of 2004 has come a long way since that fateful day in August 2000. As we progressed through matriculation week and all of its unrelenting obstacles, we began to notice the underlying fact that we would have to depend on each other. This dependence has most definitely evolved into many different meanings over time. As matriculation week came to a close, we noticed that VMI was much more than a one-week episode, but it was going to be a whole four-year experience, a four-year journey where we would need each other just as much as we needed each other in that first week when we were thrown together. VMI is not just the Rat Line, nor is it just First Class year or Ring Figure. VMI is everything that brings us together some way or somehow. VMI is the pursuit of comradeship and friendship. As we were all thrown into the mix in whatever way, be it as an athlete or a cadet who holds rank, we had to become understanding of each other. No matter what the individual experience a specific cadet followed, he still had the capability of understanding that the experience for any cadet, no matter what path he drew, was just as demanding. In that right, each one of us had the ability to reach out to every single person no matter what they were involved in and understand that they dealt with hardship and happiness just like the rest of us. Of course we all experienced these elements of teamwork through the rigors of the Rat Line, the tumultuous Third Class experience and the awesome feeling of Ring Figure. However, the things that we will take from this place are not just the memories of these events we experienced together. We will take the meaning of these events with us and, we hope, reflect upon them when we are in situations where we need the comfort or help of our fellow classmates.

Jaden L. Lowry
Historian, Class of 2004

VIRGINIA MILI

CLASS

Daniel D. Ropp
Ring Design Committee Chairman

Timothy A. Price
Class Vice President

Ja

Ring Figure Committee
Craig Hamilton, Mariah Green, Peter Kent, John Casper, Joseph Rubin,
Charles Roberts, Ray L'Heureux Jr., Derek Wiley,
Brandon Boor, Richard Connaroe

ARY INSTITUTE

OF 2004

erson Quash
resident

Jaden L. Lowry
Class Historian

Edward Chen
Class Treasurer

. Goldsmith
re Chairman

Ring Design Committee
Paul Boulden, Jake Fauber, Jake Reisch,
Stacy Rostorfor, Scott Campbell, Phillip Esco

Cadets and Their Dates

Dela Ackah
Dawn Marie Iaconi

Bree Adams
Trey Hickman

Will Allen
Ivy Hamilton

Joel Andrus
Joy Witten

Erica Ardolino
Ryan Franklin

William Ayres
Jennifer Rock

Steven Ball
Lelia Hobbs

Michael Bang
Alice Ki

Brent Banks
Jessica Melnicove

Andrew Barrett
Cristen Blankenship

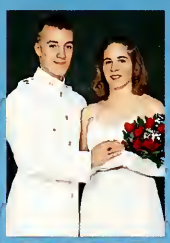
Thomas Beale
Nichole Garlow

James Bean
Scarlett Collins

Ryan Beatley
Alison Deibler

Tyler Beckwith
Sarah

Daniel Belzer
Sarah Wesley


Peter Bennett
Joy Button

John Berg
Britney Barnes

Hamilton Bice
Wendy Bates

Justin Bierens
Kari Berthiaume

Jason Boone
Caroline McKinney

Brandon Boor
Ashley Forehand

Lakin Board
Ashley Summer

Derric Borthwick
Julie Malebranch

Paul Boulden
Kimberley Baldwi

Marion Brawley
Brooke McCormack

Jason Brightwell
Latrice Daniel

Jason Brinkmoeller
Tara Kelly

Jarrett Brown
Jessica Porambo

Samuel Brown
Meghan Man

David Bruton
Stephanie Shafer

Mark Buhl
Kasia Brzeski

Peter Burke
Kirkland Wohlrab

Matthew Cage
Emily Bush

Scott Campbell
Mary Reuter

John Casper
Gina Williamson

Alison Cassell
Robert Heddrick

Dave Casteel
Jessica Stewart

Maja Cavlovic
Ned Riester

Edward Chen
Kendall Smith

Nathan Cincala
Alicia Warren

Emanual Ciudadreal
Olivia Chapman

Lincoln Clark
Danielle Rigby

Michael Coakley
Kelly Ormond

John Cobb
Sara Hitchcock

David Coleman
Megan Carrico

Jason Conley
Jamelle Royster

Richard Connaroe
Sarah Keister

Ryan Consaul
Heather Crafton

Edward Cooper
Erin Ashley

Mike Corso
Laura Ardaugh

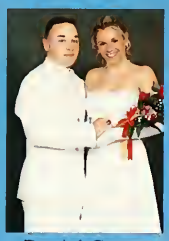
Graham Carssow
Rebecca Bumgarner

Jason Cox
Shannon Antin

Shelley Cox
Hanson Grari

Dennis Crennan
Ginger Pettengill

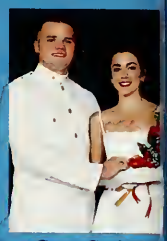
Travis Crittenden
Tiffany Adams


Daniel Cragg
Megan Munn

Andrew Cunningham
Heather Martin

George Cushman
Melissa Sarabyn

Joe Cuthbertson
Daphne Brown


Gary Cutler
Crystal Dale

Brock Daniel

Jason Daniels
Jennifer Champion

Eric Damon
Blayre Goodman

Jonathan Davis
Breanne Dotson

Natasha Davis
Christopher Amantea

Joseph Doane
Laura Whitehurst

Terrance DeGray
Cathy Clarkson

Thomas Deshazor
Mary Hart

Noah Diehl
Alison McDaniel

Joseph DiDomenico
Patty High

Brian Douglas
Lauren Kalocay

Jason Dorn
Brittney Keene

Sean Duggan
Carey Wellman

Jonathan Dumas
Sara Dietrich

Drew Eland
Susan Cage

Timothy Erwin
Hillary Richardson

Jacob Fauber
Chassidy Staton

Tim Felts
Shannondoah Jones

Tamara Ferguson
Abraham Hughes

Joshua Fox
Jen Jones

Andrew Frazier
Bethany Meservey

Edward Freeman
Carolyn Coda

Bryson Gambill
Sara Scarritt

Ross Garnett
Nikki Blankenship

Nathan Gilbert
Erin Vadala

John Ginder
Mary Luetters

Hrvoje Glasnovic
Carolyn Lubin

Stanley Gochenour
Sara James

Geoffrey Goldsmith
Elizabeth Yakaitis

Bryan Gould
Joanna Brockel

Mariah Green
Thomas Bliss

Michael Gregory
Stacie Smith

Harrison Gregory
Ann Wilson

Jonathan Hadra
Rebecca Maas

Jillian Hafer
Robert Elder

Justin Hairston
Heidi Lail

Brian Hall
Joni Foster

Daniel Hall
Lisa MacInerney

Mark Hamilton
Adrienne Desmedt

James Hardin
Lindsey Llewellyn

Winston Harrell
Joanna Sibley

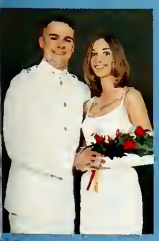
Andrew Harris
Anne Ronald

Benjermin Harris
Shaunda Fleming

David Harris
Megan Ziegert

Morgan Harris
Kimberly Gibson

Benjamin Hassell
Anne Moore


Brad Haywood
Candace Fletcher

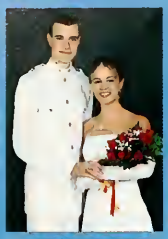
Eric Hepfer
Shellie Austin

Andrew Hickman
Lauren Keller

Johnathan Hicks
Denessa Liana

Robert Hinkel
Megan Adams

Jeffrey Hocutt


Keith Holman
Bethany Egan

Elizabeth Holthouser
Mark Holthouser

Brian Hudak
Elizabeth Dyer

Adam Halstead
Jenny Garner

Terrell Jackson
Blair Oakley

Roderick James
Renee Sayre

David Jennings
Liz Dyke

Harley Jennings
Whitney Jennings

Aarika Johnson
Scott Gilbert

Christopher Johnson
Alexis von Schoening

Sarah Johnson
Brandon Turner

Jonathan Jones
Ashley Warner

Nathanael Joslyn
Erin Foreman

Charles Karamon
Michelle Wolford

William Kastelberg
Amanda Stroud

Steve Kaufman
Rebecca Riedler

Chi-wen Ke
Sandy Su

Charles Keesee
Kati Kummer

David Kendzior
Betsy Torrey

Peter Kent
Amber Brandon

Stan Kielczewski
Sarah Laster

Slava Kirilov
Devon

Michael Kirk
Aarial Parker

Tgananhart Klongcheongsai
Cheryl Penalosa

Ryan Koziol
Katherine Dunn

Ilija Krklec
Caitlin Webber

Cyrus Kump
Ashley Wallace

Richard Lalomia
Anne Saunders

Andrew Lander
Christine Bartelt

Vincent Laorenza
Jessica Melino

Conley Laster
Erin Tanner

Caleb Lee
Anna Nicholieson

Pei-Chun Lee
Wei-Da Jiang

Jonathan Lessen
Melody Parsa

Gary Lewin
Blaire Chowlewa

Raymond L'Heureux
Melissa Beaird

Matt Liffick
Echo Naugle

Leigh-Anne Lindenmuth
Jacob Allen

Stephen Linkous
Michelle Chidester

Richard Little
Jewels Kennedy

Brent Long
Tiffany Kent

Jaden Lowery
Caroline Walker

Sean McElroy
Michelle Crossley

Michael McHugh
Kellie Woodall

Leo McInerney
Martha Ross

Michael McLaughlin
Carolyn Jennings

Brian Malast
Kristen Musulf

Abey Malave
Tomeka Wilson

Stephan Martin
Rachel Carlisle

Robb Metz
Helen Bromfield

Matthew Mikula
Katie Kanarr

Anthony Miller
Jessica Bobbs

Rory Miller
Sarah Pickering

Kent Monas
Angie Taylor

Joseph Montagna
Mandi Sligh

Joshua Montero
Brieann Wojtowicz

Joshua Mulford
Sohira Misser

Charles Munn
Katie Gordon

Steve Veranko
Amanda Almony

Honorary Brother Rat Will Allen

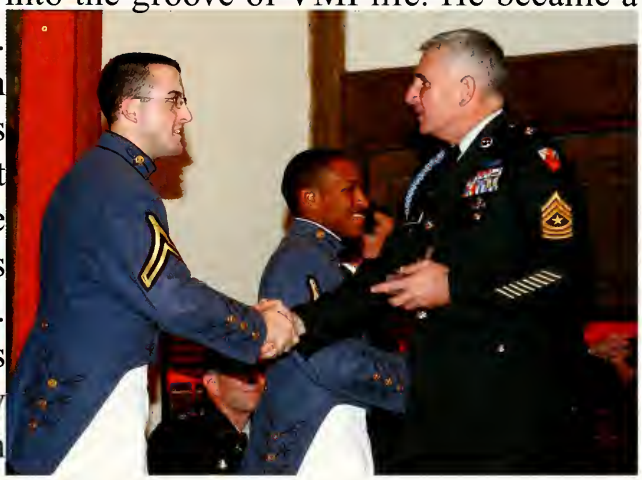
It is tradition that when a class receives its ring, it nominates individuals who have had a great impact on it as a class and who embody the "Brother Rat Spirit." We, as a class, have chosen Will Allen and SGM John Neel.

Will has been with us since the beginning and has continued to stay with us over the past three years. As we have moved down the stoop, he has moved down the stoop with us. He has essentially become a friend of all of us, but most importantly, he has become one of us. Inscribed on the inside of his ring next to his name are the initials HBR - Honorary Brother Rat.

Top: Will with Mike Gregory and Slava Kirilov at the tent party at the Travelodge. Above (Left to Right): Will shows his ring off to the class after getting it at the Ring Presentation ceremony. Will in his uniform.

Honorary Brother Rat
Sergeant Major John Neel

Even though SGM John Neel has not been with us right from the beginning, it took him no time to fall into the groove of VMI life. He became a friend and an open ear to cadets. Most cadets feel that they can talk to him on a personal basis and receive an untainted honest opinion. This is one of the single most important aspects of being a cadet and being a BR.



The Class of 2004 is honored to open its family to Will Allen and SGM John Neel. Even though they may not wear the uniform of a cadet, they bear a much more important sign - the Ring, and it is a great privilege to share it with them.

Above right: SGM shakes Tim Price's hand during the Ring Presentation Ceremony. Below (left to right): SGM shakes General Josiah Bunting's hand, and receives his ring. Below Right: SGM at his desk in the Commandant's Office.

John Neel
Kimberley Neel

Benjamin Nehrke
Ilanna Padden

Alexander Nicoloff
Erika Kellar

Brian Niven
Lindsey Zimecki

Daniel Northcraft
Jennifer Ritter

Sean O'Donnell
Rachel West

Elizabeth Olson
Patrick Khattack

Samuel Orr
Kai Kennedy

Josh Owens
Melissa Maxum

James Palmer
Katherine Prin

Matthew Park
Josie Daniels

Jarod Parker
Ashley Shadbolt

Andrew Paul
Song Me Cash

Jonathan Pax
Sara Hudak

Anthony Peters
Christy Park

Amanda Phelps

Thanphisit Phongsai

Maurice Pipkin
Cecilia Fulks

David Poldiak
Kristyn Getz

Joshua Powers
Adrienne Johnson

Timothy Price
Ashley Berkhimer

John Puvogel
Aubrey Wineholt

Jason Quash
Tasha Purcell

Benjamin Rand
Alicia Ravenel

Chris Raugh
Normandy Fox

Steven Raveia
Kristin Grzech

Derek Raymond
Lindsey Springer

Jessica Remick
Stanley Remick

James Reisch
Jill Shotzberger

Stephen Rhyne
Jennifer Medlin

Christopher Richman
Rachel Vernon

Charles Roberts
Susan Lilly

Daniel Ropp
Christina Burt

Matthew Roscoe
Tori Keel

Michael Roscoe
Tiffany Shanta

J.B. Rosson
Jennifer Showker

Stacy Rostorfer
Avi Leigton

J.R. Royston
Emily Bagby

Gordon Ruff
Elaina Eliopolous

Jonathan Rushin
Heather Overby

James Russell
Laura Ison

Christopher Russo
Sarah Zook

Jonathan Sayburn
Erin Kimble

Brian Satterlee
Beth Willis

William Saunders
Lauren Michelle

Heims Sanders
Darian Schwabe

Michael Scott
Christina Samloula

Ryan Seater
Emily Staab

Jesse Seguin
Holli Dayvis

Rob Serig
Meghan O'Riely

Matthew Sharpe
Alexis Chisholm

Michael Shealy
Molly Brocic

Adam Sheldon
Amanda Sharp

R.C. Simmons
Paige Coleman

William Simmons
Ellen Niemice

Radee Skipworth
Monica Watts

Brandon Smith
Nicole Smith

Clarence Smith
Andrea Hayes

Wesley Smith
Lauren Smith

Timothy Snelling
Tara Turner

Kenny Sydnor
Julia Hoffman

Joshua Speaks
Lindy Lingren

Hal Stallworth
Stephanie Wilson

Kevin Strait
Kristi Johnson

Brice Strickland
Leah Flint

Gregory Sturz
Tricia Heller

Alex Sullivan
Lisa Brabon

Keith Tate
Emily Cook

Ryan Taylor
Sarah Richards

Ryan Thiel
Bobbie Laughlin

Joshua Thompson
Rebekah Smart

Rusty Thompso
Brianna Beckha

Frank Toomey
Courtney Aicklen

Brian Trueblood
Clara Englert

Michael Uranko
Boann Doward

Jeffrey Van Cleave
Amanda Heinie

Matthew Vogel
Kendell Powers

James Volosin
Natalie Bartgis

Austin Wakefield
Michelle Heady

Ryan Walker
Rebecca Snellings

Stephen Walker
Carolyn Baker

Glenn Walton
Amy Robinson

Tommy Walton
Amanda Moore

Eric Waters
Kellly Rogers

Nadia Wendladt
Phil Hendriz

Edward Wierzba
Caity Kannensohn

Malgorzata Wiesak
Matt Ramsey

Derek Wiley
Christina Hayslett

Daniel Wilkerson
Lesly Warner

Robert Wilson
Mary Nianson

Landon Winkelvoss
Kara Goff

Berryman Woodruff
Amanda Brower

Joshua Wright
Sara Martin

Jen-You Wu
Shu-hwa Chen

Jesse Wullenwaber
Kristi Basik

David Yaman
Crystal Stanley

Matthew York
Mariah Moore

Keith Yull
Nicole Levesque

Adam Zimmerman
Morgan Babka

Stacy Rostorfer, Ryan Taylor, Ryan Thiel, Harley Jennings, and Jeffrey Van Cleave wait patiently to head into J.M. Hall for the Ring Presentation Ceremony.

General John Jumper '66, Chief of Staff of the Air Force and keynote speaker, addresses the Class of 2004 at the Ring Presentation Ceremony.

Sean McElroy receives the France Award.

Above: The Class of 2004 makes its way into J.M. Hall for the much anticipated Ring Presentation Ceremony. Below: Nadia Wendlandt receives her ring from the Superintendent, Maj. Gen. Josiah Bunting, III, Class of '63.

Thanphisit Phongsai shakes Jaden Lowry's and Tim Price's hands after receiving his ring.

Above: Joseph Rubin's and Ryan Koniak's parents receive their sons' rings in their absence. Ryan and Jospeh were deployed earlier in the semester with their National Guard units to help fight the War on Terrorism. Below: Cadets shake a leg after receiving their rings.

Members of the GC lead the Class of 2004 in Old Yells in Old Barracks after the Ring Presentation.

Frank Palaia and Matt Sanders admire their rings after the ceremony.

Regimental Sergeant Major Edward Chen goes over the Ring Figure parade SOP with Regimental Operations Sergeant Ben Nehrke. Ed would go on to screw it up anyway.

Keith Tate '04 leads the Regimental Pipes and Drums out o Jackson Arch.

Edward Chen and his staff pass in review. From left to right: S-1 Eric Hepfer, S-2 Hrvoje Glasnovic, S-3 Ben Nehrke, S-4 Lincoln Clark, S-5 Matt Sharpe, S-6 Dave Poldiak, and S-7 Daniel J. Cragg.

Above: Bravo Company, commanded by Stan Kielczewski.Right: Brigadier General Casey Brower, Deputy Superintendent for Academics and Dean of the Faculty, Jason Quash, Second Class President, Tim Price, Second Class Vice President, Jaden Lowry, Second Class Historian, and Geoff Goldsmith, Ring Figure Chairman, take the review.

VMI vs. Liberty University
VMI 68, Liberty 54

Left: Ben Rand shows off his tenacious D. Right: Brandon Boor and Harrison Gregory make a valiant attempt to show enthusiasm with a hangover.

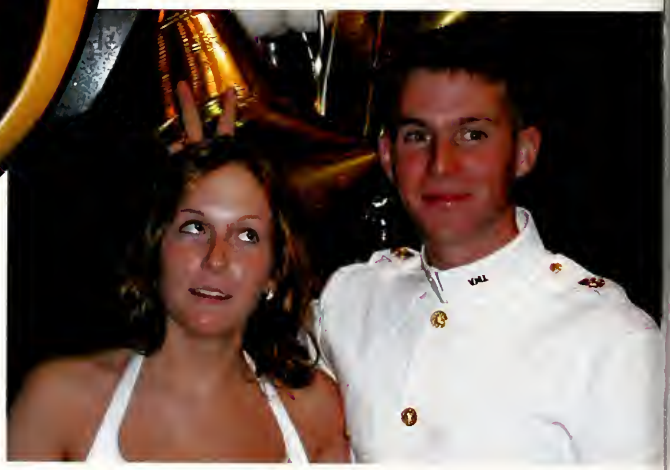
Below: Stan Kielczewski, Tony Peters and Rusty Thompson, all laughing at Chris Richman, Ring Figure Renaissance Man.

Ben Rand switching from his tenacious D to his wicked O.

Radee Skipworth all alone at the three-point line.

Above: Andy Hickman, Dave Bruton, Lincoln Clark, and Hrvoje Glasnovic at the Ball. Below: Dave Kendzior, Mike McLaughlin, Jason Boone, and Timothy Felts at the Class Dinner.

Above (top to bottom): Ben Harris, Mike Gregory, Slava Kirilov, Matt York, Noah Diehl in the ring. Right: Brian Gould shows that the ring does not make one any more mature.



Right: Chris Richman right after dislocating his shoulder in a "freak" skateboard accident.

Above: Robb Metz, Frank Toomey, Mike McLaughlin prepare for the night's antics. Below: Matt Parks, Ben Harris, Matt York, and Slava Kirilov.

Above: Mike McLaughlin, Dave Kendzior, and Stephen Linkous Left: Hal Stallworth does his best flying squirrel impression.

Left: Chip Satterlee, Ryan Consaul, and Stanley Gochenour party the night away.

Below: Dan Cragg, Brad Haywood, and Chris Richman. "No Chris, you can't go back to the tent party. Monika banned you."

Above: Mike Roscoe and Chris Richman. Below: Ben Harris and Chris Johnson "bonding."

THE·HEALTHFVL·AND·PLEASANT·
YOVTHS·PRESSING·VP·THE·HILL·
A·GRATIFYING·SPECTACLE : AN·
STATE : OBJECTS·OF·HONEST·PRI
SPECIMENS·OF·CITIZEN·SOLDIER
PROVD·OF·HER·FAME·AND·REA
·TO·V

The Class

DE·OF·A·CROWD·OF·HONORABLE
CIENCE·WITH·NOBLE·EMVLATION
NOR·TO·OVR·COVNTRY·AND·OVR
TO·THEIR·INSTRVCTORS·AND·FAIR
TTACHED·TO·THEIR·NATIVE·STATE
N·EVERY·TIME·OF·DEEPEST·PERIL
IGHTS·

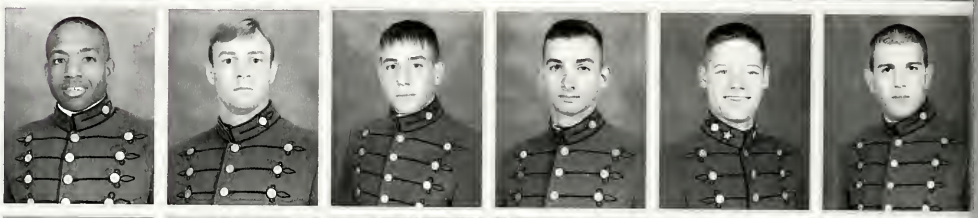
of 2004

Josh Powers

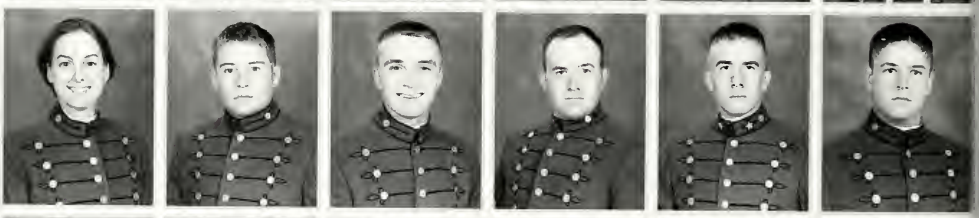
Timothy Price

John Puvogel

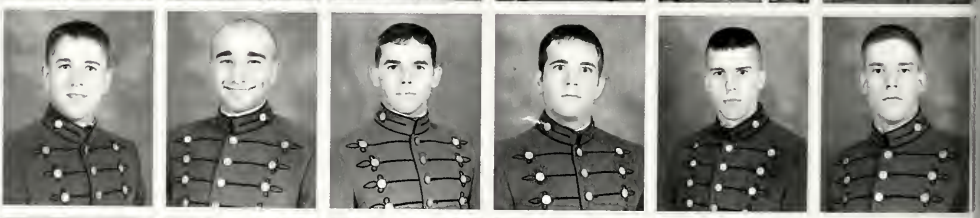
Jason Quash
Benjamin Rand
Christopher Rauh
Steven Raveia
Derek Raymond
Jake Reisch



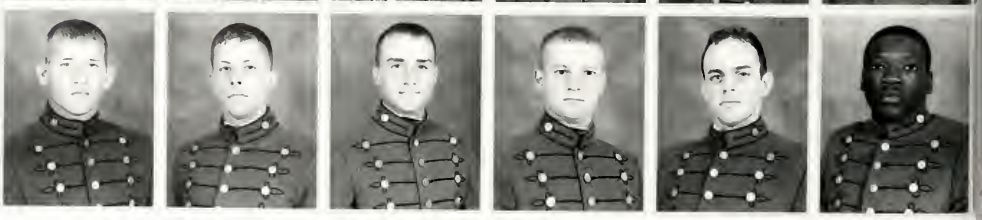
Jessica Remick
Stephen Rhyme
Christopher Richman
Charles Roberts
Daniel Ropp
Matthew Roscoe

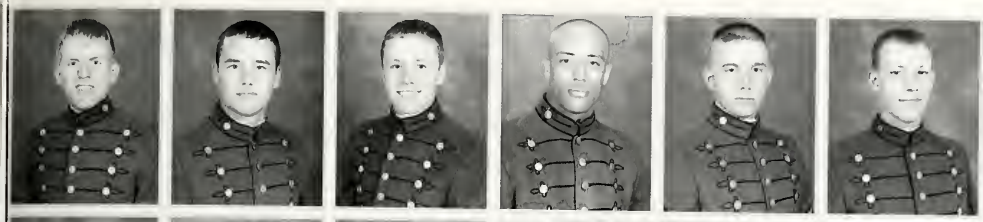


Michael Roscoe
J.B. Rosson
Stacy Rostorfer
Joseph Royston
Joseph Rubin
Gordon Ruff

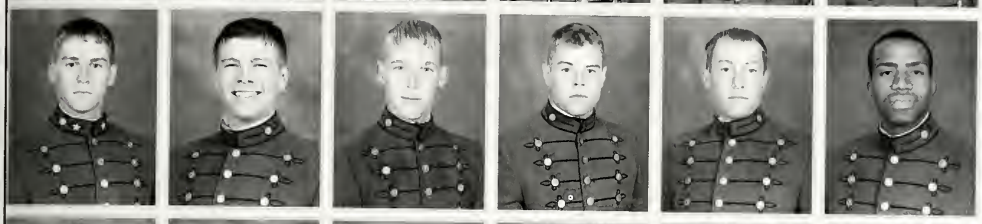


Jon Rushin
James Russell III
Christopher Russo
Jonathan Saburn
Matthew Sanders
Musa Sarki

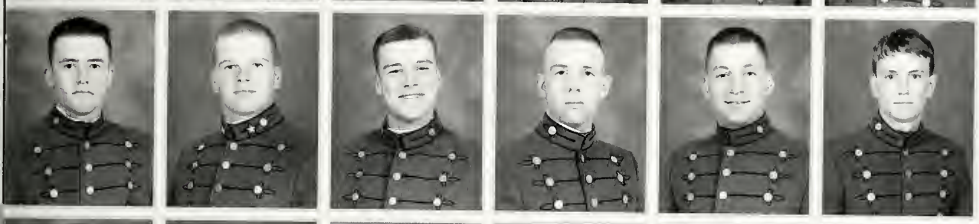




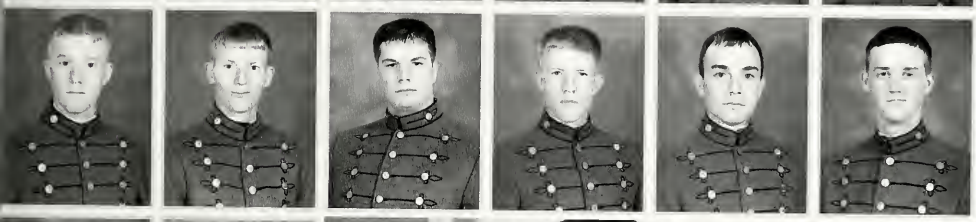
Brian Satterlee III
William Saunders, Jr.
Michael Scott
Derik Screen
Jesse Sequin
Rob Serig



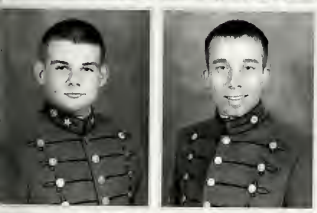
Matthew Sharpe
Michael Shealy
Adam Sheldon
Robert Simmons
William Simmons
Radee Skipworth



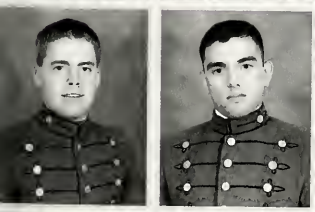
Justin Sloan
Brandon Smith
Clarence Smith
Wesley Smith
Joshua Speaks
Henry Stallworth, Jr.



Kevin Strait
Brice Strickland
Greg Sturz
Alex Sullivan
Kenneth Sydnor
Keith Tate



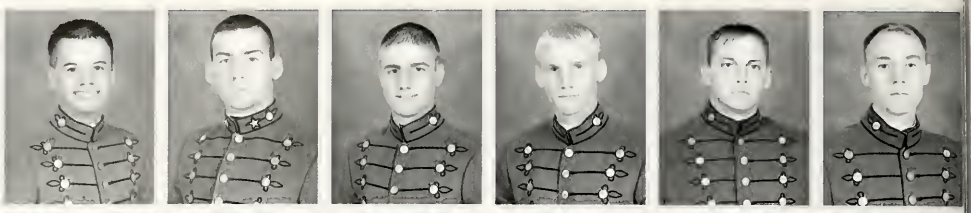
Ryan Taylor
Ryan Thiel



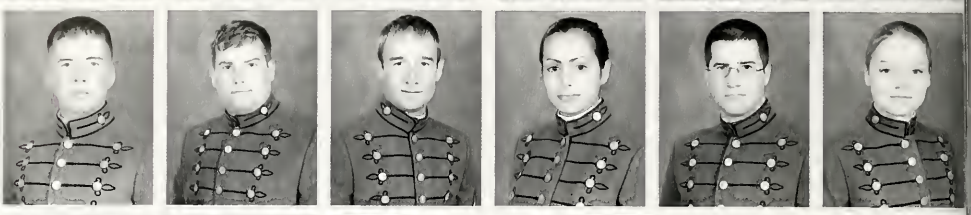
Joshua Thompson
Rusty Thompson

Frank Toomey
Brian Trueblood

Michael Uranko
Jeff VanCleave
Stephen Varanko
Matthew Vogel
Austin Wakefield
Ryan Walker



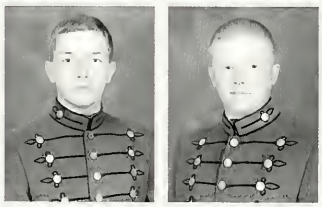
Glenn Walton
Thomas Walton Jr.
Eric Waters
Nadia Wendlandt
Edward Wierzba
Malgosia Wiesak



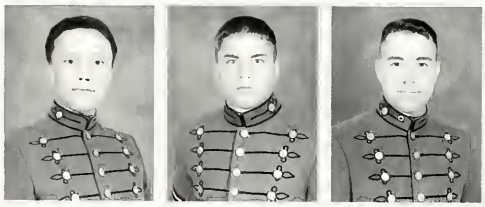
Derek Wiley
Daniel Wilkerson

Rob Wilson
Landon Winkelvoss

Chipper Woodruff
Joshua Wright



Jen-You Wu
Jesse Wullenwaber
Metin Yaman



Matthew York
Keith Yull
Adam Zimmerman

In Memoriam

Barrett F. McIlhenny, a member of the Class of 2003, was claimed by death before he could claim his VMI diploma with his classmates. Barrett, a native of Lake Jackson, TX, was born on 23 February 1981 in Houston and entered VMI in the fall of 1999. He was an economics and business major who had distinguished himself with a 3.725 GPA during his three semesters at the Institute. In addition to being named to the Dean's List each semester, he was inducted into Phi Eta Sigma, the national honor society that recognizes superior achievements as a freshman, at the end of his first year.

In January 2001, he had only recently arrived in England, where he was to participate in the Oxford Study Abroad Program at St. Edmund Hall. He had just completed an 11-day orientation program when he contracted meningoccocal meningitis. He died a week later on 21 January 2001 in a London hospital.

A memorial service was held on 9 February 2001 in the St. Edmund Hall Chapel. Two brother rats, Peter Hugger and Wes Swank, also participants in the Oxford program, helped plan the service and contributed to it with remembrance remarks. The moving service also included music of significance to Barrett and his family, prayers and remarks led by the Rev. Duncan MacLaren, Chaplain of St. Edmund Hall, a candle-lighting ceremony, and concluded with the memorable words of poet T.S. Eliot's "Little Gidding," one of his *Four Quartets:*

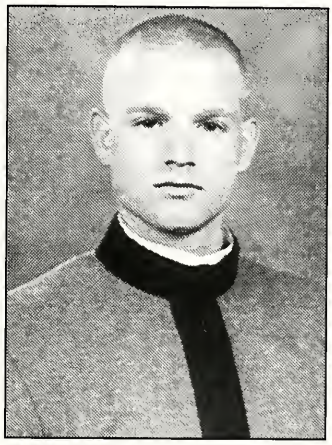
> What we call the beginning is often the end
> And to make an end is to make a beginning.
> The end is where we start from.

St. Edmund Hall has established a modest annual memorial scholarship fund in Barrett's name that will assist other VMI cadets who also choose to study at Oxford.

During the brief time he spent at VMI, Barrett had established himself as more than an academically outstanding student. In the fall of his second year, he was named corporal in the Corps of Cadets; he was also one of only two regimental clerks.

The editors of the *Bomb*, Barrett's fellow classmates of the Class of 2003 and his dyke class extend together heartfelt sympathy to his parents and the other members of his family who survive him.

Sadly Missed



Barrett F. McIlhenny
23 February 1981 - 21 January 2001

And Not Forgotten

2005

On August 20, 2001, under the full silhouette of a moonlit sky, the Class of 2005 known then only as the Mass, began its journey. A journey never before experienced in the history of this great Institute. Although most were more than ready and willing, others were scared senseless, still, together we made history. Little did we know that while we were experiencing the greatest test of our life, our great country was about to experience one even greater. September 11, 2001, reminded us that we are no longer living in normal times and that our lives are filled with uncertainty and ambiguity.

It allowed us to see that we are only as strong as the people who surround us, and with that insight, 2002+3 began to look within and form the bonds that we still hold strong today. Bonds that could not be broken through the cannon blasts of "Little John" on hell night and during countless sweat parties; Bonds that could not be worn down through endless force marches and parades; Bonds that were made harder than the stone supporting the sentinel box, the same sentinel box in which the Rat Job Books were torched to ashes. VMI witnessed a new breed of citizen-soldiers when looking at us. A rat mass with infinite courage, bravery, intellect and wisdom; we embodied all the qualities of the ideal VMI Cadet. The Institute saw the true meaning of "Honor Above Self" at the Veteran's Memorial on Veteran's Day when we each laid down the crests in a unified show of respect.

During our rat tenure we saw the Corps come together embracing the brotherhood spirit in a step-off under the leadership of our dykes' class, the class that molded, guided, and mentored us. There were many cadetships lost, many hopes and dreams shattered in that ordeal, but the "Institute was heard from" that day, and it will not be forgotten. Through all of this, the Rat Mass emerged stronger, more focused, more determined, and more ready to drive on. The bonds were put to the test in one final week-long campaign that began 02-02-02. This symbolized our resurrection week and can be readily heard in the old yells for our dykes' class. On February 9, 2002, at then end of it all, after 174 days of the most unforgettable challenges of our lives, after climbing the hill, the Class of 2005 emerged. In the moments that followed, we shared our first of many Old Yells for 2005. Bonds still intact, a tightly woven unit was formed, never to be broken.

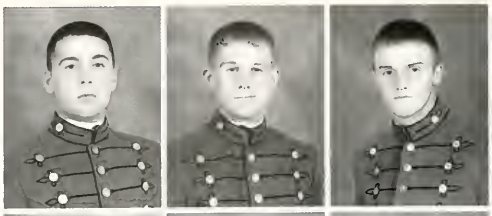
As Third Classmen we have seen the establishment of a new administrative attitude. Barracks' life is slowly easing out of the hands of the Corps and into the grasps of the administration. There is now a "Barracks Self-Help Plan" in place, through which the Corps is given a false sense of control; "policing our own," cleaning our own bathrooms, showers, stoops, parking lots and even disposing of our own trash. We are heading into a time where even the *STOOPIES* have more influence on the administration than does our own Corps of Cadets. The Ratline has taken a new form and although many cadets complained about the structure and procedures, we all came together and brought out the essence of the Ratline to the best of our limited abilities. Academics have reached a level of superior standards where everyone must push himself or herself to the max to achieve above average grades. Even through all of this, our class holds together strong, raising the bar of excellence for the classes to come.

We have lost many Brother Rats along the way, some to Institute policies and others to the Armed Services protecting and defending the very freedom in which we as Americans take so much pride. God bless them all. We as a class must now be even stronger than ever, because we are heading into a time where we must all stick together to survive. We have come far on the "road less traveled" since that hot August night, and things are not about to get any easier. There is still much ahead for the class of 2005, and we can face and conquer every task presented before us as long as we do it as a class. The bonds have been formed; the rings have been ordered; the Celebration has already begun.

In the Bonds,
Robert Oaks
Class '05 President

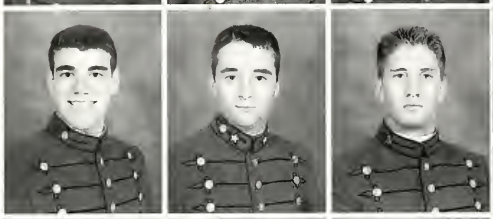
Third Class

Christopher Aaron
Justin Abbinante
Matthew Acors



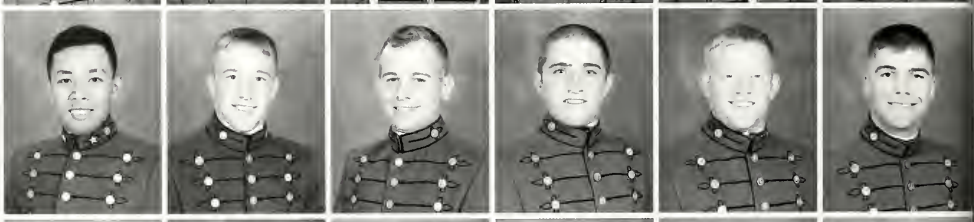
Milton Aguire
Katherine Aldrich
Timothy Allmond

Douglas Aloisio
Colin Alstad
Jordan Amos

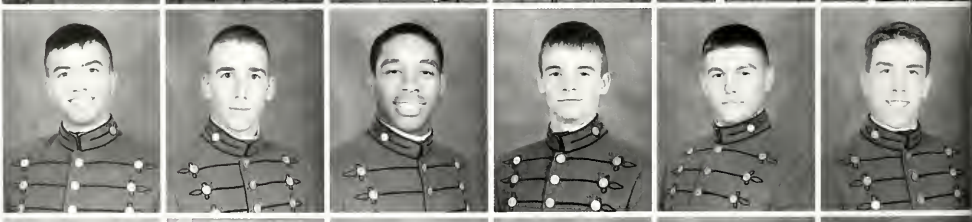


Ryan Anderson
William Angle
Zane Angle
Gabriela Arraiz
Rebecca Baas
John Baber

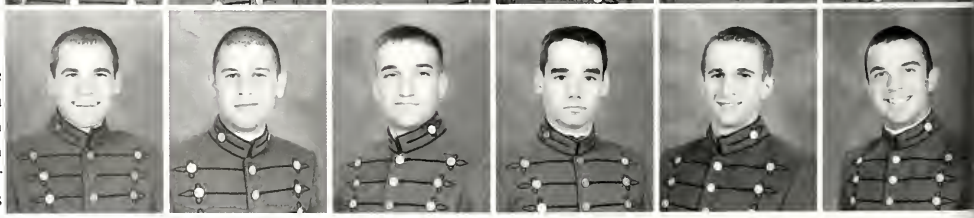
Kanchanadet Banchusuwan
Robert Barbaree
Blake Barnard
Nicholas Battle
John Beal
Matt Bean

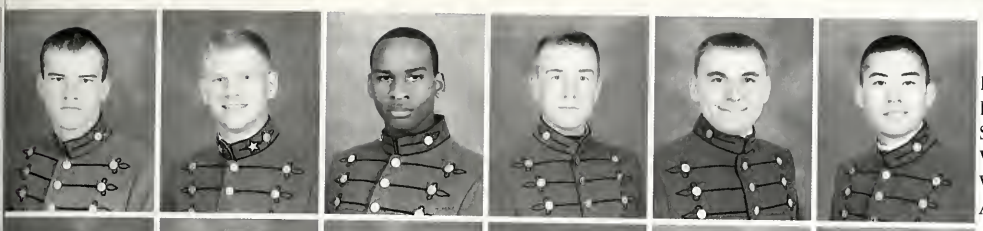


David Beehler
Lael Belotti
Preston Beverly
Charles Blake
Victor Bockman
Roland Bodenheim



Anthony Boone
Lance Bourassa
Brian Bowman
Alex Boykin
Garrett Brickner
Christopher Brooks





Robert Brown
Paul Bryan
Steven Bryan
William Bryant
William Butt III
Austin Cam

Nathan Canfield
Gregory Carlson
David Carroll
Ryan Carroll
Hao-Po Chang
Albert Chatwood

Yu-Fan Chen
Aaron Childers
Jonathan Cirillo
Kyle Clark
Ryan Clemens
Adam Clift

Anthony Cochet
Jeremy Coffman
John Coleman II
Scarlett Collins
Mark Conley
Allen Coones

Kenneth Cooper
Mildred Cooper
Boyd Correll

Jonathan Corrado
Steven Cunningham
Eric DeAvilla

Jeffery DeMara
Anthony Demarco
Ty Denby

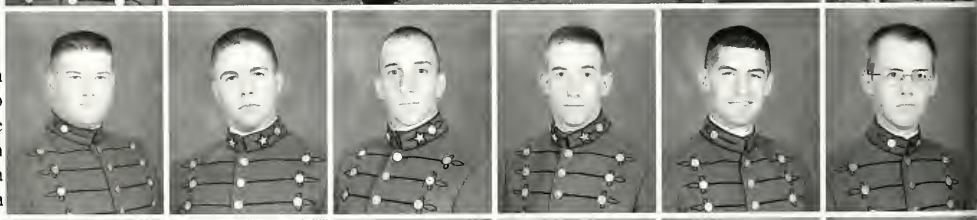
William DeShazor
Jason Devine
Sean Dixon
Douglas Dobbins
Michael Dongieux
Matt Dowdy

Matthew Dowler
Jason Downs

Peter Dreisbach
James Driggs

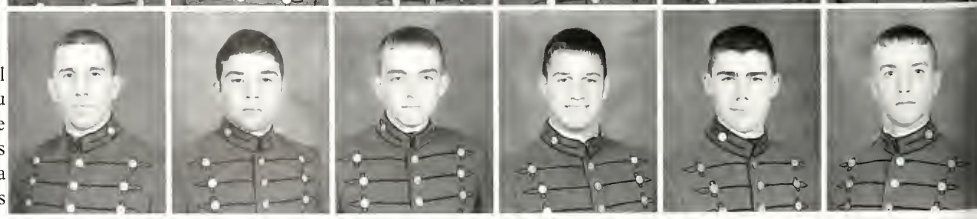
Jarred Drown
Michael Duerr

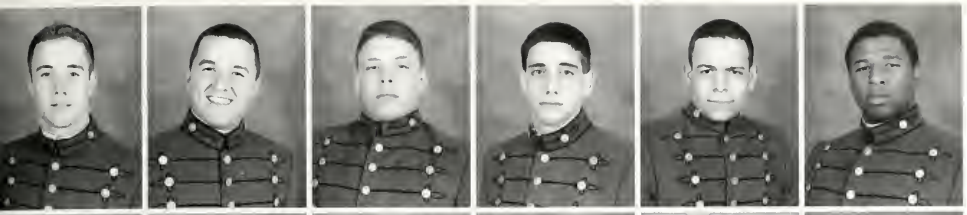
Brian Duncan
Ian Dunlap
Alexander Dunoye
Jeffrey Durham
Matthew Dussia
Franklin Dyson



Esau Eatman
Roman Edmunds
Charles Ehnot
Cory Engelhard
Elliott Erbe
Justin Fallin

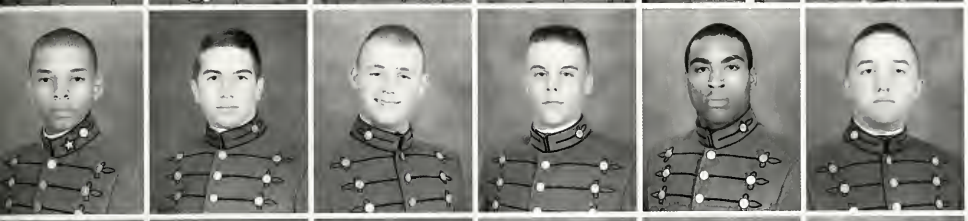
Edward Farrell
James Favareau
Charles Feazelle
Brandon Fellers
Thomas Ferrara
Daniel Fields



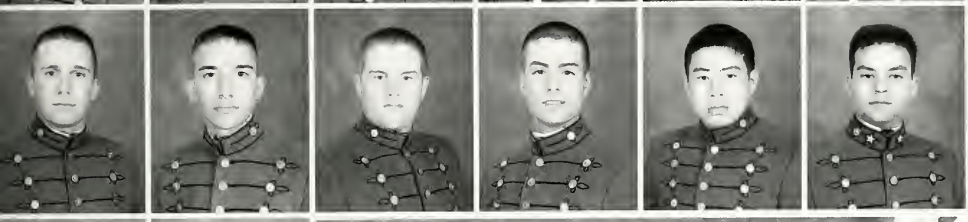


John Fisher
Brian Fitzgerald
Ian Foley
Tim Foran
Peter Formica
Vicheal Foxx

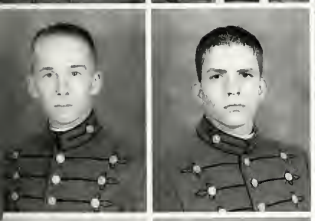
Kyle Francis
Adam Frick
Gerrid Gall
Erik Gallmann
Loren Gernandt
Robert Gibson



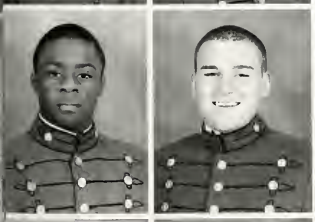
Aaron Gleaton
Adam Gochenour
Andrew Gordon
Brian Gorski
Titus Green
Cody Grey



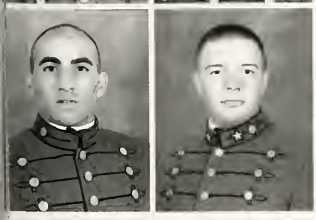
Preston Griffith
Felix Guerra
Christopher Guin
Brandon Haenny
Henry Hak
William Hamilton



Brandon Haney
Thomas Hardinge

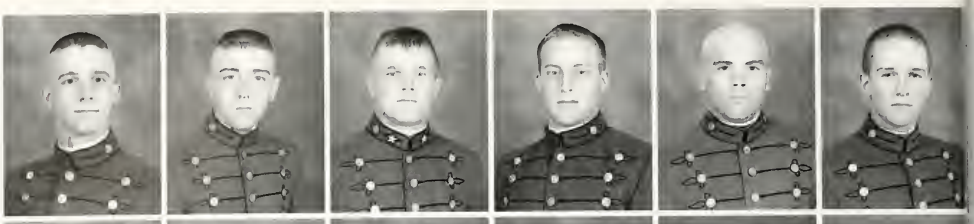


Christopher Hardy
Nicholas Harper



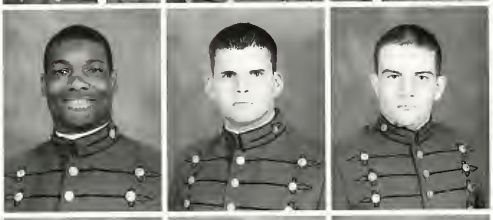
Justin Harris
Daniel Harrison

Brett Havelka
James Hayes
Conor Heely
Eric Heese
Ted Henderson
Terrence Henderson



Brian Herrick
Benjamin Hobbs
Matthew Hook
Travis Hord
Austin House
Eric Huggard

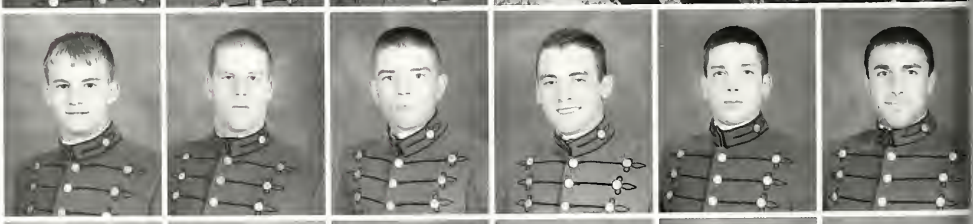
Kamau Hull
Thomas Humphrey
Mark Iannatuono



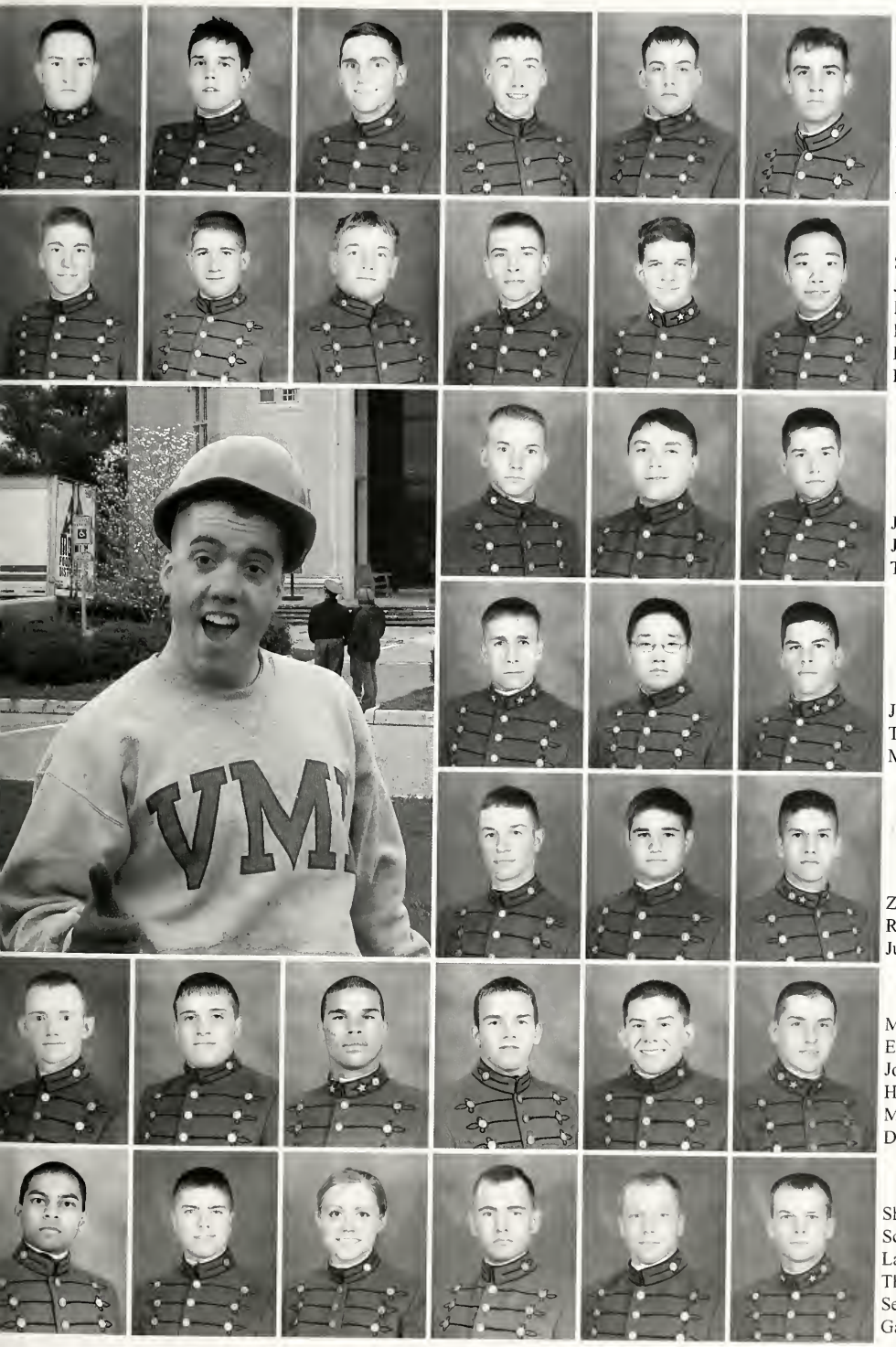
John Ikner
Anthony Iliadis
Thomas Innes

Kyle Isaacs
Wei-Han Jeng
Jonathan Johnson

Nathan Johnson
Peter Johnson
Samuel Johnson
Timothy Johnson
Alan Jones
Kevin Jones



Justin Juarez
Paul Julian Jr.
Eric Kaltrider
Andy Karnes
Kurt Karpov
Meciek Kepka



Benjamin King
Ryan King
Jim Kingsley
John Kite
Peter Knowles
Andrew Kochli

Scott Kreckman
Jeff Krug
Peter Kubesh
Matthew Kurz
Paul Kuwik
Daniel Kwon

Jeffrey Lange
John Langowsky
Thomas Largi

John Leacock
Thomas Lee
Mark Lenzi

Zachary Lewis
Richard Litwin
Justin Liu

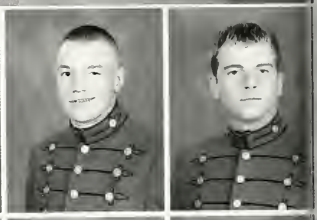
Matthew Lloyd
Eirc Lockard
Joshua Lyles
Henry Lynch
Marc Lyons
Douglas Macdonald

Shushil Machhi
Scott Maciejewski
Laura Mack
Thomas Manley
Sean Matson
Gabe McCaig

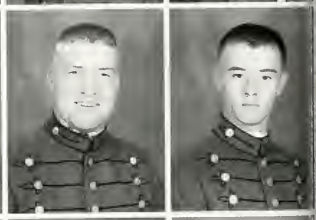
Preston McFaddin

Matthew McGuire

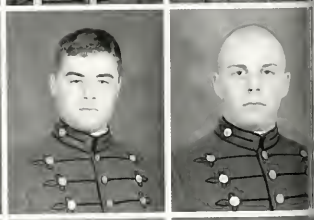
Shannon Meehan



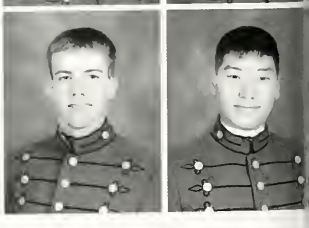
George Melton
Paul Mercer
Christopher Meyers
Sam Mielnik
Andrew Miller
Brad Miller



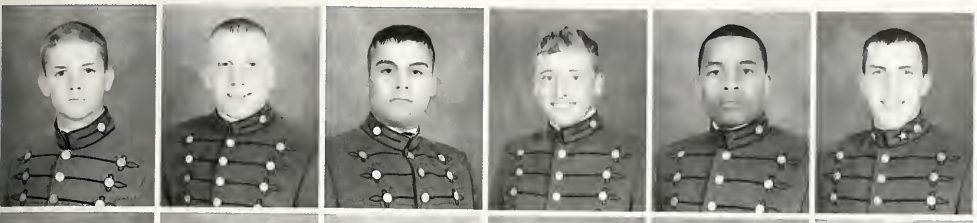
Jordan Mills
Sean Moore
Lucas Moore
John Morgan
Reese Morris
Christopher Muller



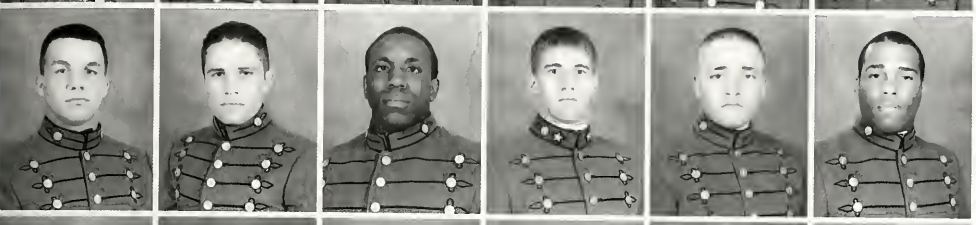
Ryan Murphy
Emily Naslund
Saul Newsome
William Nickels
Adam Noelte
Brian Nooney



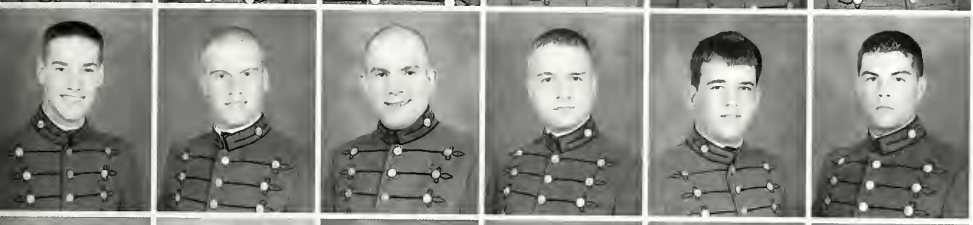
Matthew Noreus
Amie-Anne Novak
Robert Oaks
Rory Opanasets
Robert Page
Brian Park



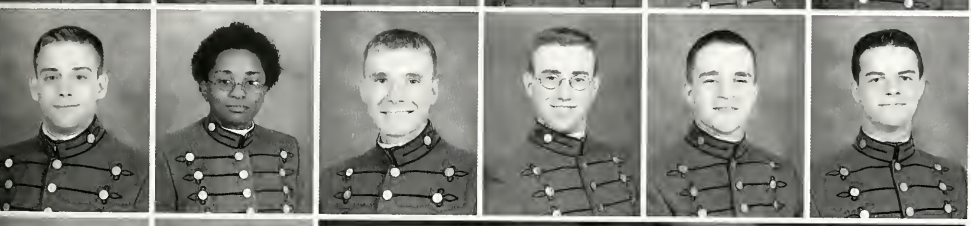
Seth Parker
Michael Parsons
Alexander Paul
Will Paulette
Maury Pauling
William Pearl



Daniel Peasall
Marco Perez
Chris Perry
Tom Petykowski
Lev Pobirsky
Marion Powell

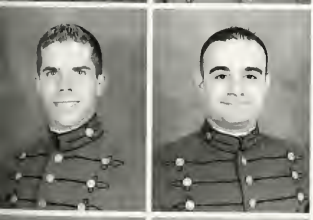


Jonathan Prible
Jordan Prior
Jonathan Proctor
Joseph Proce
James Rainey
Derek Rankin

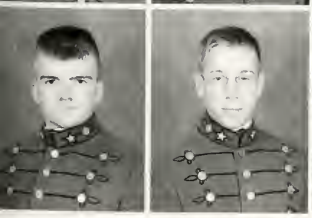


William Ray
Pamela Reeves
John Rerucha
Jason Reinitz
Timothy Riemann
Erik Rohrmann

Joseph Rouleau
Adam Rouse



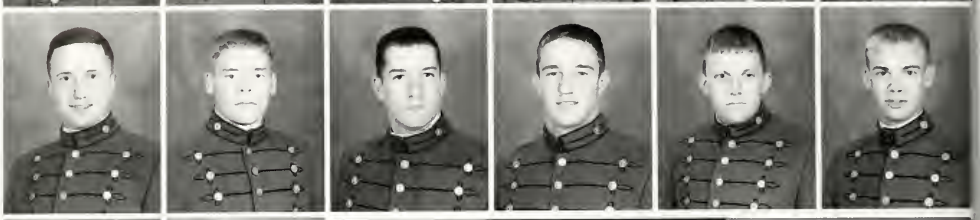
Jeff Rummell
John Sakaleros



Phillip Sauls
Stephen Sawyer

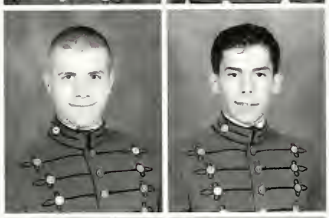
Jacob Saylor
Ryan Schelske
Daniel Schreiber
Shelby Sears
Margaret Serig
Walker Shakespeare

James Shambley
Philip Shapiro
Joshua Simulcik
Carlton Smith
Jeffrey Smith
Joseph Smith

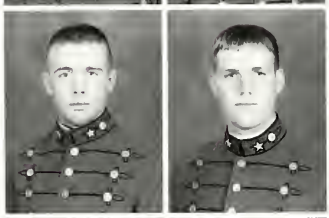


Margaret Smith
Matt Smith

Brandon Snively
Daniel Spanu

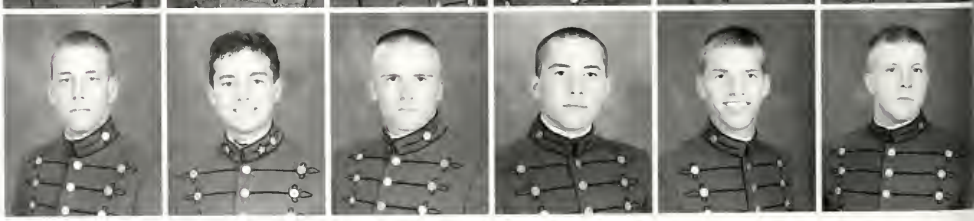


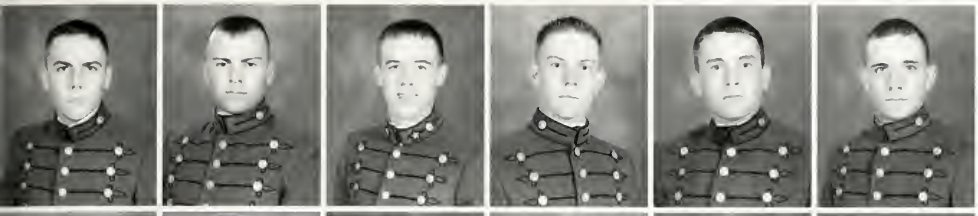
Jeffrey Sparks
Brett St. Peter



Gregory Staat
Jamaal Stafford
Ben Stenger
Samuel Stephens
Jessie Stewart
Charles Stokes

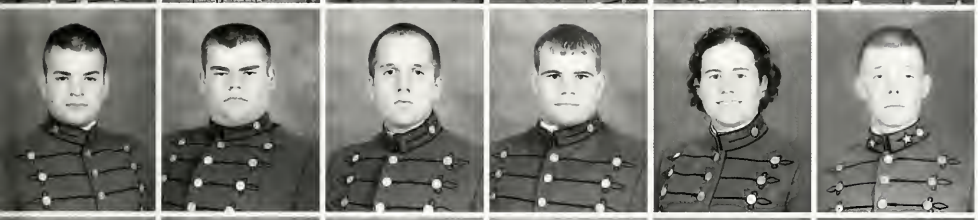
Shore Stokes
Andrew Stone
John Streetman
Adrew Stribling
Brendon Strickland
Josh Sullivan



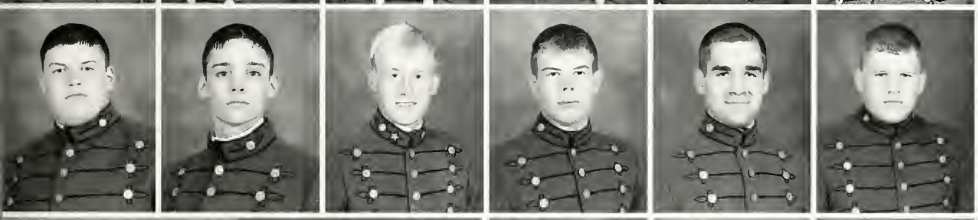


Nick Taran
Aaron Thatcher
Andrew Thom
John Thompson
James Thomas II.
Michael Tittermary

Andrew Troy
Yang-Hsi Tsai
Brian Tuohy
Joseph Turner Jr.
Jonathan Vaughn
Nick Viar



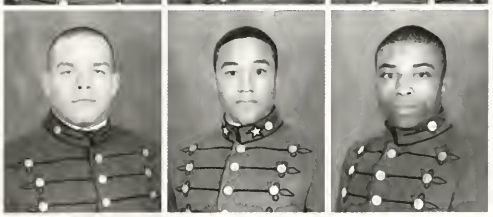
Ronald Volpicella
Clifford Wade
Jon Wade
Randall Wainmer
Colleen Wall
Aaron Wallace



Jeremy Ward
Steven Watson
Lawton Way
Kurt Weishaar
Beau West
Hunter West

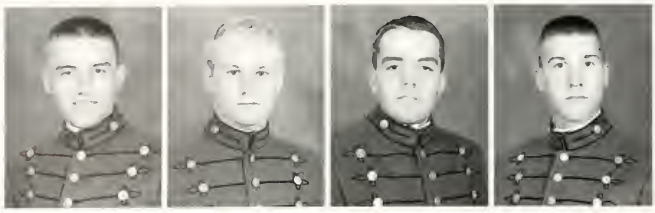
Brandon Wheeler
Jarod Wheeler
Christopher White

James White
Angel Wilde
Austin Williams

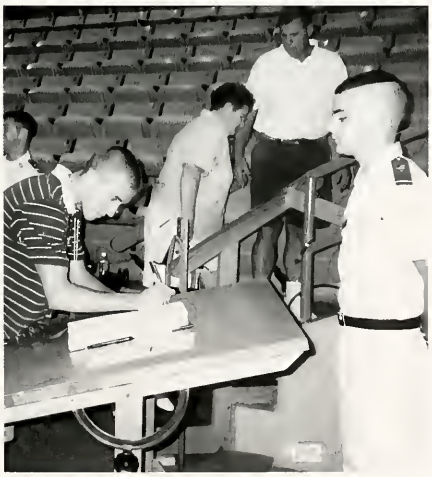


Frank Williams
Ken William
Larry Williams

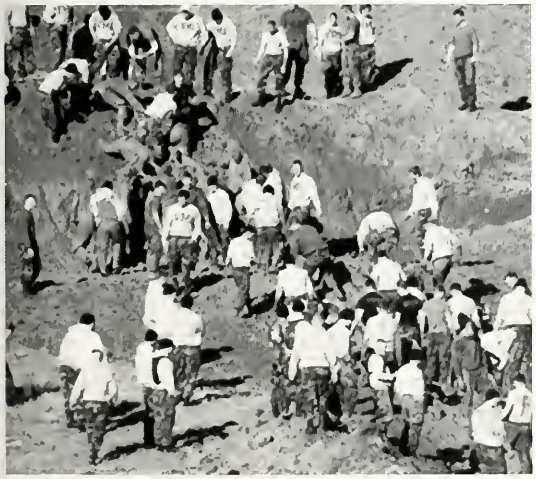
Robinson Williams
Henry Wise
Charles Witchor
Matthew Woyansky



WOMEN

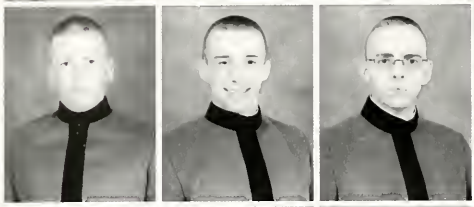


BREAKOUT 2006

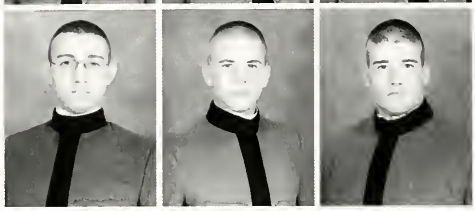


Colin Adams
Richard Adamson
Kevin Aldrich

Ryan Alexander
Nelson Alger
Joseph Alley



Joseph Amatetti
Micah Amrozowicz
John Anderson



James Angerman
Thomas Angus
Marc Antonelli
Albert Arline
Christopher Authier
Christopher Back

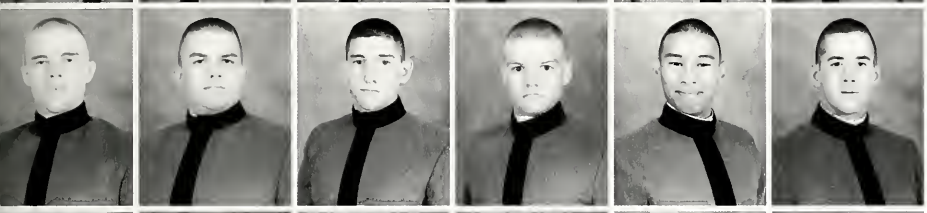
Christopher Baker
Todd Baldwin
Marcus Barnes
Jamaila Barantes
Scott Bartholemew
Stephen Bartoszak

Bradley Barscope
Steven Bechtel
Derek Behney
Jonathan Bender
Jeffrey Bennett
Kari Berton

David Bhatta
Amber Blain
Eric Bliss
Thomas Bradford
Christopher Bandriff
Charles Brennan

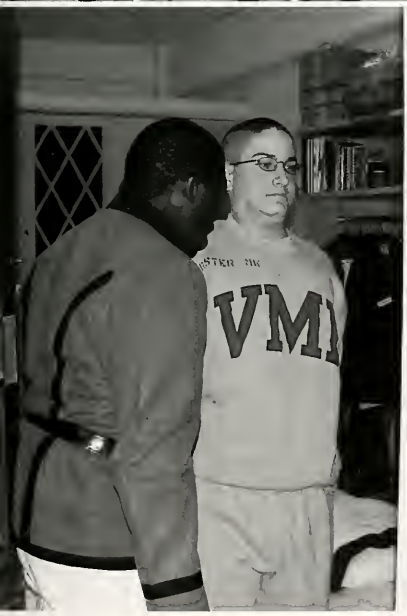
Cyprian Brodowski
Christian Brown
Heather Brown
Adam Brownback
Seth Brunner
Alex Bruster

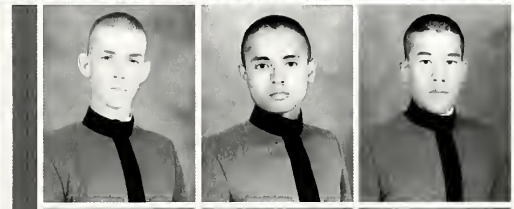
Chase Buchanan
Adam Buehler
Scott Buhman
Howard Bullen
Zohn Burden
Joel Burger



Mark Bush
Benjamin Butler
Jeffrey Butwell
Ian Camper
Gabby Canceran
Michael Carney

Marc Castillo
Tony Cavalero
Miguel Cervoni
Jon Cesaesky
Wei-Ying Chang
Christopher Chase



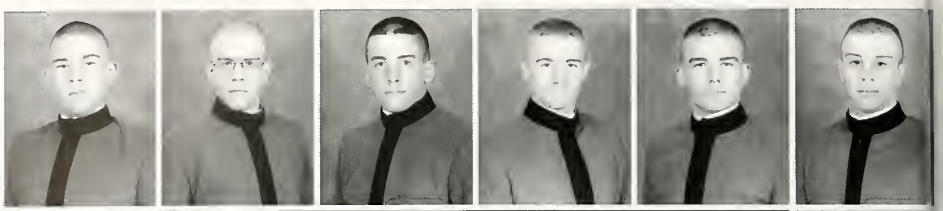


Michael Chase
Ekkarach Chimpong
Christopher Chin

Benjamin Chovanec
Adrian Cmerek
William Collier

Thomas Collins
Edward Cook III
Lee Cook

James Covington
Dennis Crump
Greg Curcio
David Davidoski
Will Davis
Kyle Deem



Kelley DeNeen
Andrew Dernovsek

John Diehl IV
Frank Dolberry

James Donovan
Nick Dowdle

Matthew Dragoo
Shawn Driver
Clark Dudley
Richard Durkee
Jason Durr
Christopher Eaton

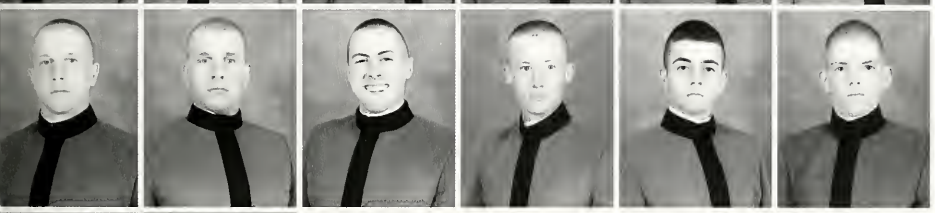
Bradley Edwards
Clint Edwards
Dane Elles
Jayson Ellwein
Seth Enterline
Daniel Ervin

Jonathan Everiss
Nathaniel Ewoldt
Timothy Fairchild
Blake Faller
Kevin Farkas
Clifton Ferguson

Charles Fessler
Michael Floyd
Christopher Foltz
Michael Forester
Jonathan Fox
John Fox

Daniel Frank
Jason Fraser
Robert Frazier
Joshua Freeman
Kyle Frickle
Jessica Fulton

Cody Garrett
John Garvey
Chris Gathmann
Jeremiah Gaudette
John Gilbert
Joseph Gill II



Chris Gillilard
Jeff Gilmore
Jonathan Glascock
Adam Glassick
Jose Goncalves
Adam Good

Braxton Good
Derek Gouker

Eron Grabowsky
John Grahm

Jochen Granja
Timothy Greer

Class of 2006

Patrick Grey
Philip Hahn
Kyle Hamm

Glenn Hammond II
Grant Harris
Christopher Hassler

No Picture Available

Aaron Hawkins
Trista Hays
Craig Heffner

Jeremy Hefner
Patrick Heiny
Timothy Helmick
Ryan Hergrueter
John Herzog III
Raymond Hill

Jesse Hills
Michael Hiltner
Benjamin Hilton
Shawn Hogan
Jonathan Hollenbeck
Russell Horrocks

No Picture Available

No Picture Available

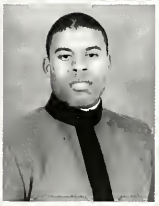
Matthew Hudgins
Justin Huggard
Brian Hunt
Andrew Ihnen
Zane Irby
Curtis Ivins

No Picture Available

Han-Lung Jin
Phillip Johnson
Donald Johnston
Casey Jones
Matthew Jones
Shaun Jones

LeVar Joseph
William Keller II
Jonathan Kelton

Johnathan Kennedy
Brian Kerrebrock
Diana Khaksar



David Kimsey
Eugene King III
Yau-Ren Kuo

Phillip Lacey
Brian Lennon
Charles Lindsey Jr
Colleen Logan
Sean Loman
Jason Long

Samuel Long
Miguel Longoria
Ryan Loucks
John Lowery
Phillip Lundberg
Robert Lydon

Kyle Lynch

Lezshell Mackall

Kyle Madden

William Maddox IV
Jason Major
Michael Maleski Jr.
Tadas Mankevicius
Christopher Marr
Alexander Maslak

Robert Mason III
Brandon Massenburg
Nolan Maxwell
Jonathan Mayhew
Kevin Mays Jr.
Nicholas Mazzenga

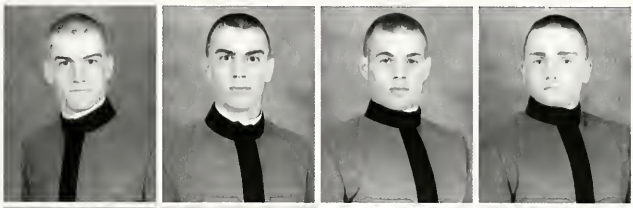
No Picture Available

Andrea McCain
Barry McCord
Sean McCormick
Brian McGill
Matthew McGonegle
Robert McGraw

No Picture Available

Steven Mercer
David Mercera
Matthew Miller
Zachary Miller
Gerard Mills
Stuart Miner

No Picture Available

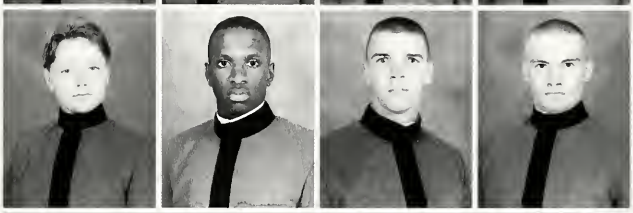


Heather Miras
Sean Mizzer
Thomas Moncure
Tyler Monger
Kirk Monteleone
Sean Moran

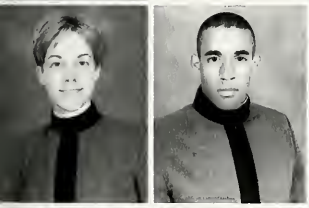
Nathaniel Moreira
Benjamin Morris
Michael Morris
Benjamin Mowery
John Mundt
Cornelius Murray

Jonathan Nagle
Thomas Nance
Steel Nardozzi
Andrew Neckman
Paul Neumann Jr.
Matthew Neundorfer

No Picture Available



Jonas Norbutas
Nicholas O'Connor
Berit Oftedahl
Anthony Oliver
Matthew Oliver
Daniel Osborne



Mary Osborne
Joseph Osuji

Jordan Pagones
Timothy Papenfuse

James Papa
Geoffrey Parker

Alana Parks
Steven Parsons
Michael Pasquale
Bart Payne
Christopher Petree
Daniel Petronzio

William Pettit
Lacey Phillips
John Planchta
Matthew Plant
Hans Porter
Katrina Powell

Christopher Price
Gary Price

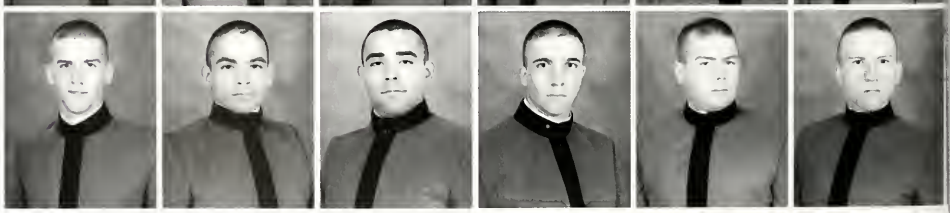
No Picture Available

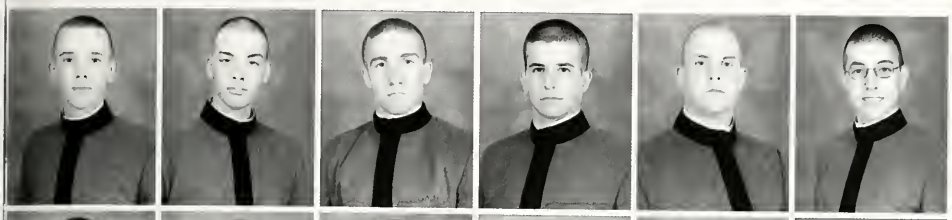
Christopher Pridgen
Jason Pritchett

Matthew Pumphrey
Daniel Purdy

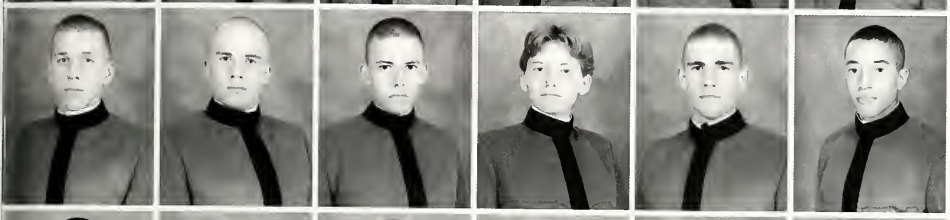
Gregory Quillen
David Rahl
David Raser Jr.
Daniel Regan
Joseph Reiter
Keun Rhee

Kyle Richards
Michael Rios
Rafael Rivera
David Roberts Jr.
Brandon Rocker
Christopher Rogers





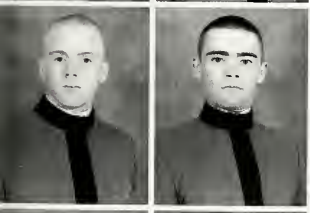
Daniel Rogers
Ryan Rogers
Quentin Rohlfs
Kyle Rosch
Adam Rosenbaum
Nick Saccone



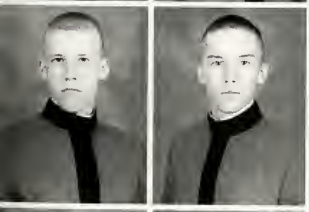
Jeffrey Sale
David Santoro
Christopher Schalz
Robyn Schaperjahn
Kyle Schriefer
Mark Searles

Christopher Seta
Derek Shea
John Sheckells
Jared Sheets
Jared Shiley
John Shillingburg

Ernest Simons
Kevin Simpson
Yevgeniy Skvortsov
Terrence Slack
Jeffery Slone
Andrew Smith



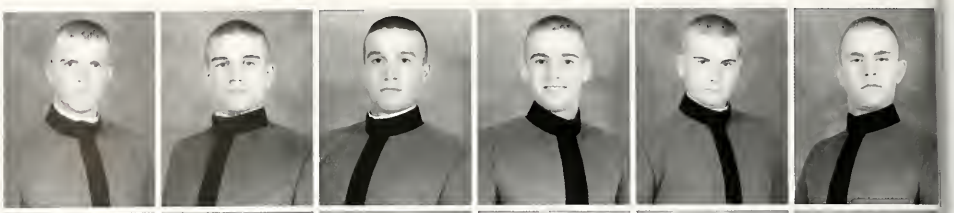
Christopher-Ray
Smith
Kirby Smith III



Matthew Smith
Steven
Souchtchenko

Brenton Spry
Bradley Steidle

Kirk Steiner
Thomas Stevenson
Derek Stiller
Christopher Stolle
Christopher Stone
Timothy Stover



Gregory Stronko
Kelly Sweppenhiser
Richard Tamillow
Jedidiah Tan
Patrick Tangonan
Joshua Taylor

Forrest Tharrington
Angela Thompson
Clinton Thompson

Jeffrey Thornes
Joseph Thorp
Parker Thurman

Jonathan Tibbs
Ryan Tibbs
Brent Timmer

Jackson Todd
Anthony Tolomeo
David Trimble
Robert Trimble
Joseph Tyler
Erik Uber

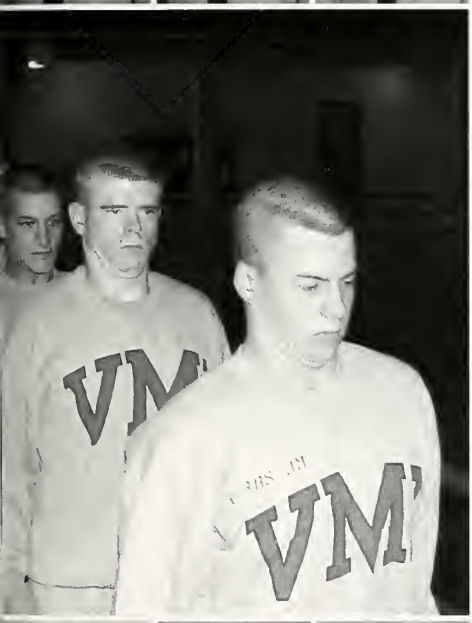
Brenton Underwood
Charles Upshaw
Thomas Upton
Lester Wagner II
Christopher Walker
Joselyn Wall

No Picture
Available

No Picture Available

Samuel Wallace
Andrew Walton
Casey Ward
Raymond Webb III
Darren Wellner
Paul Welsh III

Michael Werner
James White
James Wicker
Peter Wilcox
Alexander Williams
Clinton Williams



Daniel Wilmoth
Jonathan Wilson
Philip Wilson

No Picture Available

Thomas Wilson
Todd Wilson
Richard Wimmer

Bryan Winter
Keneth Wiseman III
Paul Witherspoon

David Wolf
Sean Wolf
James Woodard II
Boyd Worley
Justin Woulfe
Brian Yannetti

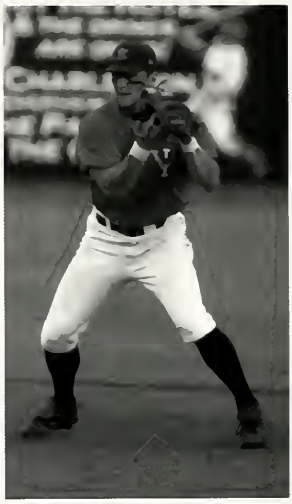
Michael Yeo
Bryan Yerger
Andrew Yeski
Thomas Zager
Siliang Zhang
Douglas Ziegenfuss Jr.

Robert Zirkle
Stephan Zirkle
Joseph Zyra Jr.

VMI
VMI

VMI
VMI

NCAA

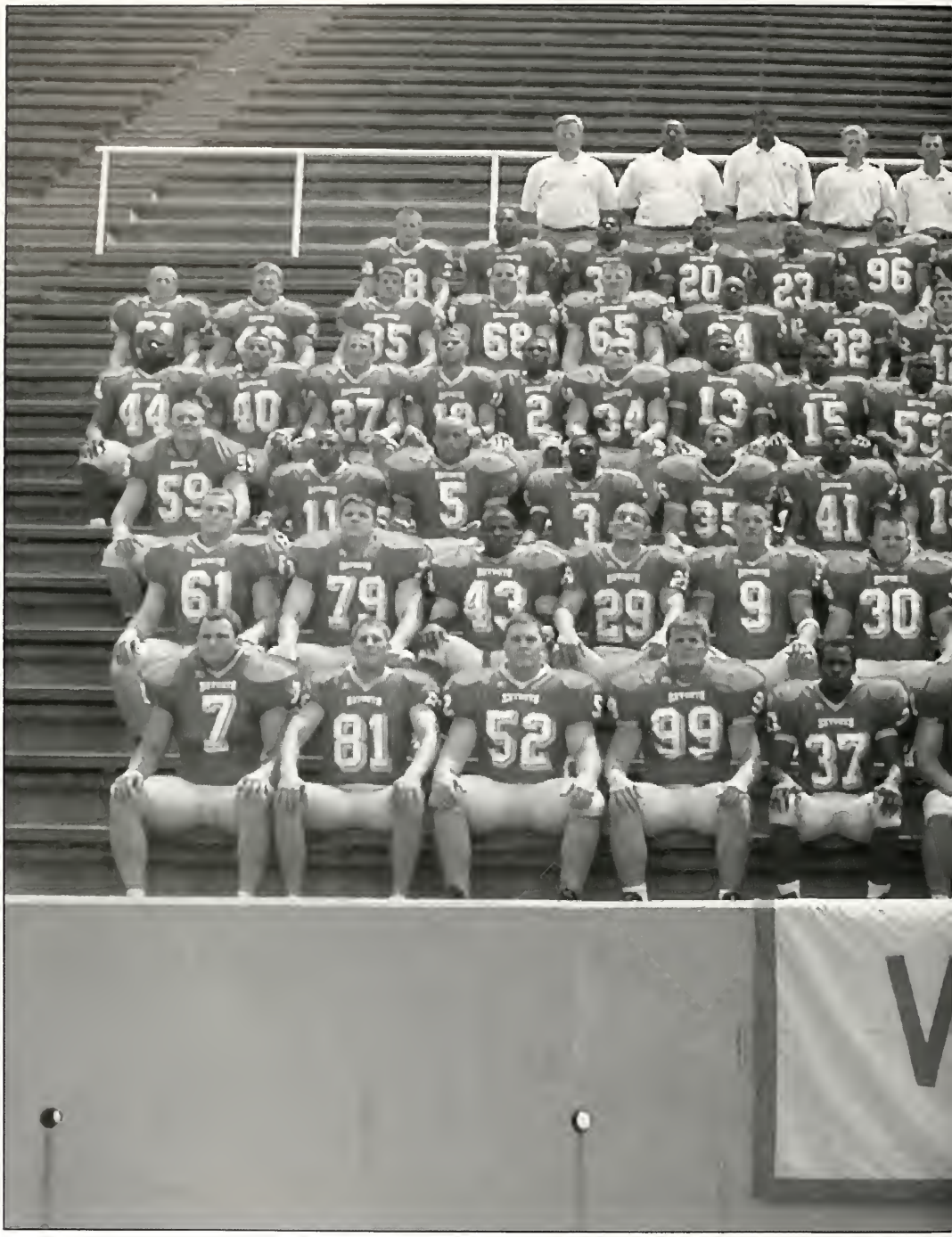


SOUTHERN CONFERENCE
12

Football

Schedule

Date	Opponent	Outcome
8/31/2002	at Charleston Southern	W 27-24
9/7/2002	vs Davidson	W 41-16
9/14/2002	at William and Mary	L 31-62
9/21/2002	at East Tennessee State	L 21-35
9/28/2002	vs Furman	L 28-55
10/5/2002	at Georgia Southern	L 7-52
10/12/2002	vs Wofford	W 27-16
10/19/2002	at Chattanooga	W 35-31
10/26/2002	vs Liberty	W 38-14
11/2/2002	vs Western Carolina	L 23-35
11/9/2002	at Appalachian State	L 13-54
11/16/2002	vs The Citadel	W 23-21



MI

Soccer

Schedule

Date	Opponent	Outcome
08/20/2002	vs Georgetown (Scrimmage)	T 0-0
08/24/2002	at Radford (Scrimmage)	W 2-1
08/31/2002	vs Colgate	T 2-2
09/07/2002	at St. Joseph's	L 2-3
09/08/2002	at Philadelphia	L 0-2
09/13/2002	vs Central Connecticut State	T 3-3
09/15/2002	vs Belmont	T 3-3
09/21/2002	vs Wofford	W 3-2
09/24/2002	at Davidson	L 0-4
09/28/2002	at Georgia Southern	L 1-4
10/06/2002	vs UNC Asheville	L 0-2
10/09/2002	at N.C. State	L 0-2
10/17/2002	vs Washington and Lee	T 0-0
10/19/2002	vs The Citadel	W 4-2
10/26/2002	vs College of Charleston	L 2-3
10/29/2002	at Appalachian State	L 0-2
11/02/2002	vs Furman	L 0-2
11/09/2002	at UNC Greensboro	L 0-3
11/14/2002	at Appalachian State/ SoCon Tournament	W 2-0

Basketball

Schedule

Date	Opponent	Outcome
[illegible]	vs Liberty	W 68-54
[illegible]	at Tennesse	L 56-88
12/[illegible]	at Saint Fran[illegible]	W 76-59
12/05/[illegible]	at Virginia T[illegible]	L 66-71
12/[illegible]/2002	[illegible]-Wise	W 77-66
12/1[illegible]	at Liberty	L 69-77
12/14/[illegible]	vs Eastern Mennonite	W -57
12/20/20[illegible]	vs Mary Washington	L 56-60
12/28/2002	at Norfolk State	L 69-70
12/29/[illegible]	at Harvrad	W 71-67
12/31/2002	at Georgetown	L 48-8[illegible]
01/05/2003	[illegible]	L 56-7[illegible]
01/11/2[illegible]	[illegible]	L 84-9[illegible]
01/13/2003	[illegible]	L 57-76
01/18/2003	vs [illegible]	L 62-67
01/21/2003	vs Da[illegible]	W 61-60
01/24/2003	vs Appalachian State	L 68-85
01/27/2003	at College of Charleston	L 56-81
02/01/2003	at Furman	[illegible]-61
02/04/2003	at East Tennesse State	L 76-[illegible]
02/08/2003	vs Wofford	[illegible] (OT)
02/10/2[illegible]	at Appalachian State	[illegible]
02/15/2[illegible]	vs Western Carolina	[illegible]
02/18/2003	vs. [illegible]ooga	L 5[illegible]-77
[illegible]/2003	vs UNC Greensboro	W 61-60
[illegible]/24/2003	at Davidson	L 49-84
03/05/2003	at Furman/SoCon Tourn.	W 62-56
03/06/2003	at Davidson/SoCon Tourn.	W 66-60
03/[illegible]/2003	at Chattanooga/SoCon Tourn.	L 58-77
03/07/2003	at Chattanooga/SoCon Tourn.	L 58-77

Season Recap

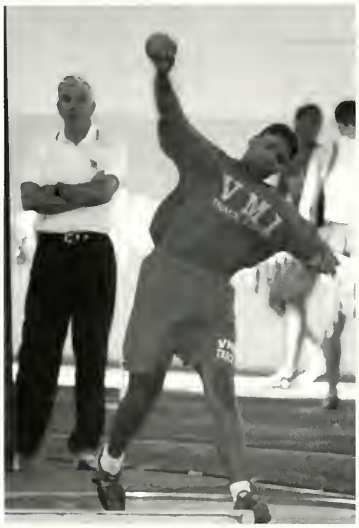
The season commenced under a somber cloud after former player Chad Kenna '02 passed away in late August. The team decided to dedicate its efforts to Kenna and played with heartfelt emotion for their lost teammate.

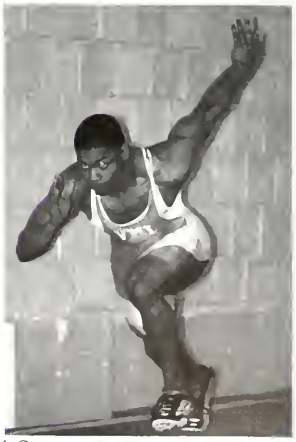
The season was filled with promise and encircled by high expectations. The team was said to be on the up-and-up, returning the country's leading scorer, Jason Conley (29.3 ppg) to its lineup. Many speculated that the "Runnin' Roos" would run the table during its final season in the Southern Conference. In the beginning, the projections seemed to be legitimate, with the team defeating future Big South rival Liberty and playing Big East opponent Virginia Tech very closely.

The tides turned, however, when Jason Conley packed his bags for the University of Missouri, leaving the team without its leading scorer and go-to-guy. Many wrote the team off, predicting its fall would be fast and furious. The players rallied, however, proving their hearts are big and their will iron-clad. After losing eight straight games, the team closed out the regular season winning two of its last three games, including a monumental win over nemesis The Citadel.

The team rode the momentum into the Southern Conference Tournament, where it fed off a tumultuous North Charleston crowd that resonated chants of "VMI...VMI," paying homage to a founding member of the conference that was in the middle of its swan song. The Runnin Roos' put together its most memorable performance of the season, subverting Furman 62-56 and the shocking So-Con super-power Davidson 66-60, making a statement that they were not taking a final bow without displaying a magnificent final performance. The team eventually fell to Chattanooga, but its ferocious run will never be forgotten.

Track and Field

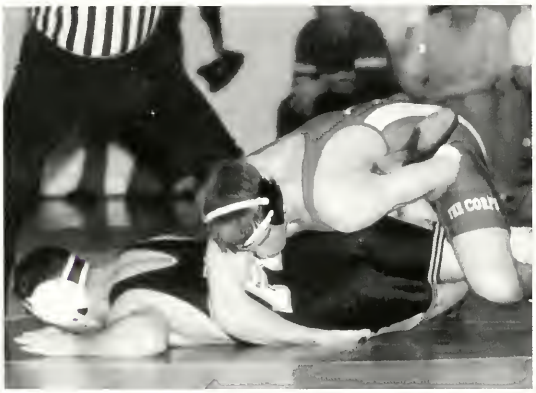




Cross Country

Date	Tournament	Outcome	
		Womens	Men
09/07/2002	Virginia Tech Invitational	-----	-----
09/14/2002	U.S. Naval Academy	-----	-----
09/21/2002	JMU Invitational	-----	-----
10/05/2002	Hagan Stone Invitational	3rd of 4	1st of 2
10/19/2002	William & Mary Invitational	8th of 12	-----
11/02/2002	Southern Conference Championships	9th of 12	8th of 11

Wrestling



Schedule

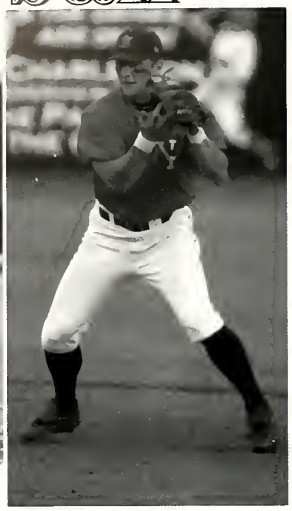
Date	Opponent	Outcome
11/03/2003	Keydet Invitaional	-----
11/14/2002	Varsity Wrestle-Offs	White 17-16
11/16/2002	West Virginia Open\	-----
11/24/2002	at Keystone Classic	-----
12/06/2002	at Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invit.	-----
12/07/2002	at Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invit.	-----
12/28/2002	at The Midlands	-----
12/29/2002	at The Midlands	-----
01/08/2003	at Virginia	W 27-9
01/10/2003	vs Edinboro/ Virginia Duals	L 7-24
01/11/2003	vs Hofstra/ Virginia Duals	L 6-31
01/17/2003	vs George Mason	W 35-6
01/19/2003	vs Virginia State	2nd of 6
	Championships	
01/24/2003	vs North Carolina State	W 20-12
01/29/2003	at James Madison	W 20-12
02/01/2003	at All-Academy	-----
	Championships	
02/07/2003	vs Appalachian State	L 6-26
02/08/2003	vs UNC Greensboro	W 40-6
02/15/2003	at The Citadel	W 17-16
02/16/2003	at Davidson	W 48-0
02/22/2003	at Chattanooga	W 26-12
	at Southern Conference	2nd Place
03/08/2003	Championships	
03/20/2003	at NCAA Championships	-----
03/21/2003	at NCAA Championships	-----
03/22/2003	at NCAA Championships	-----

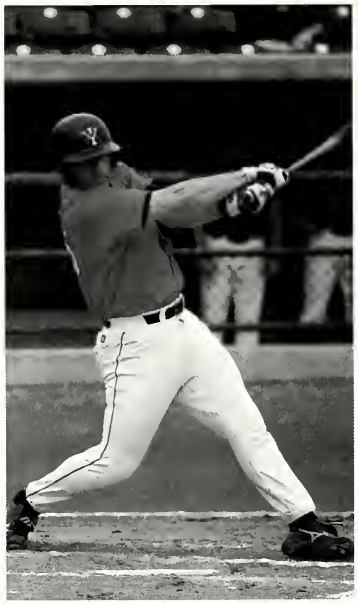
Lacrosse

Schedule

Date	Opponent	Outcome
02/15/2003	vs Roanoke (Scrimmage)	-----
02/19/2003	Bates (Scrimmage)	-----
02/22/2003	vs Mars Hill (Scrimmage)	-----
02/24/2003	vs Butler	L 2-15
03/04/2003	at Duke	L 5-17
03/08/2003	vs Lehigh	L 8-16
03/15/2003	vs Canisius	W 13-9
03/18/2003	vs Manhattan	W 8-7
03/22/2003	at Wagner	W 7-6
03/29/2003	at Marist	L 11-12
04/01/2003	vs Washington and Lee	L 8-9
04/05/2003	vs Providence	L 5-6
04/12/2003	at St. Joseph's	L 7-8 (OT)
04/19/2003	vs Siena	W 12-8
04/26/2003	at Mount St. Mary's	L 12-17

Baseball





Schedule

Date	Opponent	Outcome
01/31/2003	at Florida State	L 4-12
02/01/2003	at Florida State	L 1-5
02/02/2003	at Florida State	L 3-10
02/08/2003	at Samford	L 1-2
02/08/2003	at Samford	L 1-3
02/09/2003	at Samford	W 4-3
02/21/2003	at Norfolk State	W 5-0
02/27/2003	vs Hofstra	Ppd., Rain
03/01/2003	vs Navy	Ppd., Rain
03/02/2003	vs Navy	Ppd., Rain
03/04/2003	vs Radford	L 1-2
03/05/2003	at Richmond	L 8-9
03/07/2003	vs Davidson	W 6-1
03/08/2003	vs Davidson	W 7-2
03/09/2003	vs Davidson	W 9-7
03/11/2003	at Elon	L 4-5
03/12/2003	at N.C. State	L 4-9
03/14/2003	at East Tennessee State	L 1-2
03/15/2003	at East Tennessee State	W 3-1
03/16/2003	at East Tennessee State	L 0-7
03/18/2003	vs Marist	W 8-4
03/22/2003	vs Furman	L 1-7
03/22/2003	vs Furman	W 8-5
03/23/2003	vs Furman	W 4-3
03/26/2003	vs William and Mary	L 2-13
03/28/2003	at Georgia Southern	L 0-2
03/29/2003	at Georgia Southern	L 6-13
03/30/2003	at Georgia Southern	L 2-3
04/02/2003	at Radford	W 11-6
04/04/2003	vs UNC Greensboro	W 11-4
04/05/2003	vs UNC Greensboro	L 3-8
04/06/2003	vs UNC Greensboro	W 7-5
04/08/2003	at Old Dominion	Ppd., Rain
04/12/2003	vs Coppin State	W 16-6
04/12/2003	vs Coppin State	W 15-8
04/15/2003	at Virginia Tech	L 4-6
04/18/2003	at Western Carolina	L 3-16
04/19/2003	at Western Carolina	L 7-11
04/20/2003	at Western Carolina	L 9-14
04/22/2003	at Virginia Commonwealth	L 0-1
04/26/2003	vs Wofford	W 5-3
04/26/2003	vs Wofford	L 5-11
04/27/2003	vs Wofford	W 10-0
05/03/2003	at Appalachian State	W 6-4
05/03/2003	at Appalachian State	W 10-8
05/04/2003	at Appalachian State	W 11-1
05/10/2003	vs College of Charleston	L 6-18
05/11/2003	vs College of Charleston	W 6-5
05/12/2003	vs College of Charleston	W 5-3
05/17/2003	at The Citadel	L 0-10
05/17/2003	at The Citadel	W 7-6
05/18/2003	at The Citadel	L 1-5
05/21/2003	at Georgia Southern/ SoCon Tourney	L 4-6
05/22/2003	at The Citadel/ SoCon Tourney	W 2-1
05/23/2003	vs Furman/ SoCon Tourney	W 2-1
05/24/2003	vs UNC Greensboro/ SoCon Tourney	L 1-10

Keydets Selected in June 03 Amateur Draft

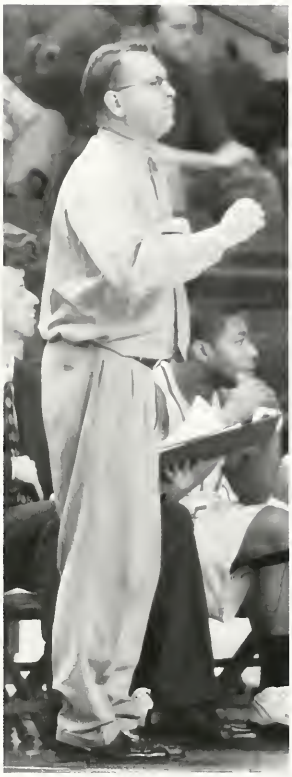
Pitcher Jeremy Harper '03 was selected by the Toronto Blue Jays

Catcher Andy Barden '03 was selected by the Atlanta Braves

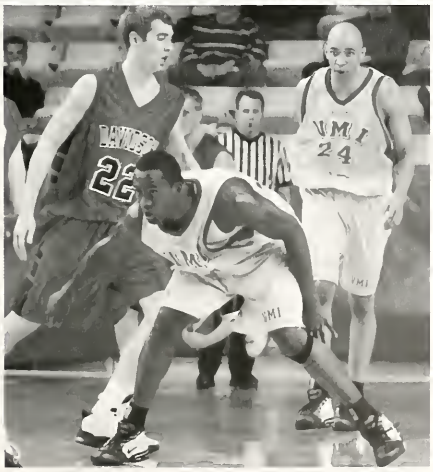
Pitcher Phil Hendrix '03 was selected by the Milwaukee Brewers

Rugby

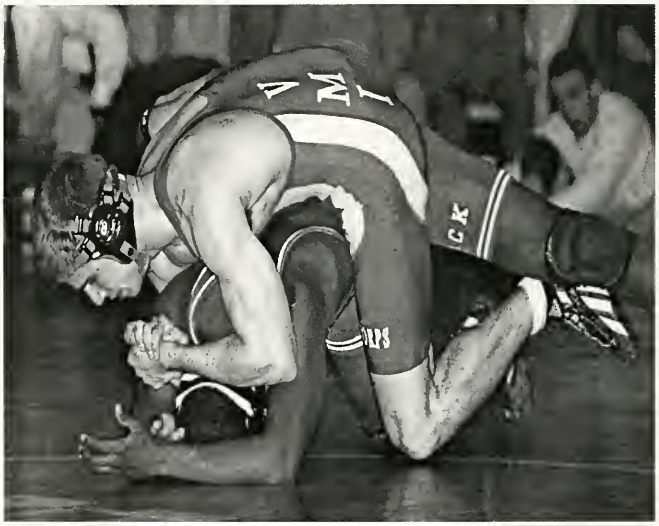
comcast
ANDOLINI'S
PIZZA

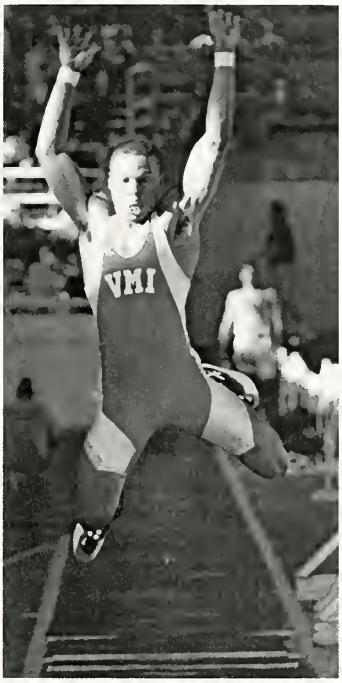


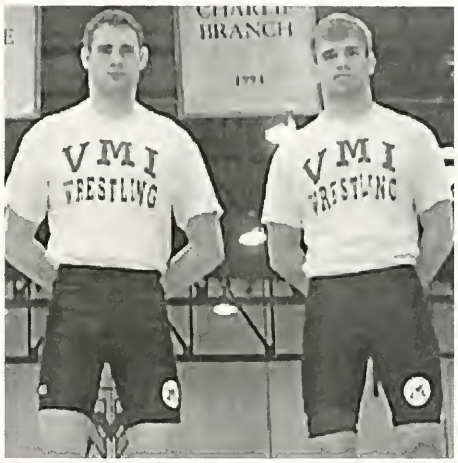
AND READY IN EVERY TIM
HE HONO OR D ND

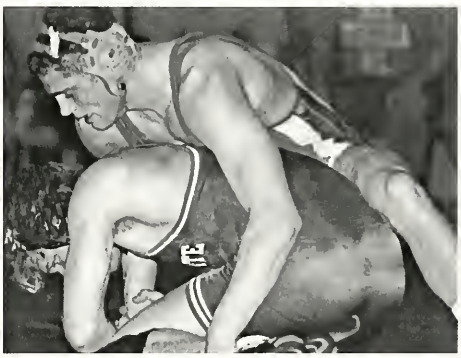

VMI
24

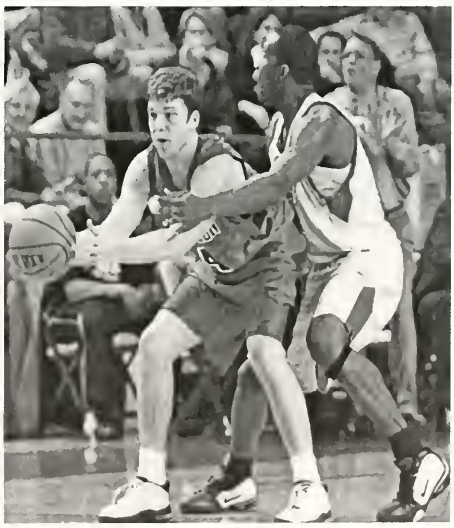
21




VMI


VMI
WRESTLING
VMI
WRESTLING





VMI CLUBS

AAAA
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY
CPB (CADET PROGRAMS BOARD)
BIG BROTHER/BIG SISTER
BIG RED CLUB
BLOOD DRIVE
BOXING
THE CADET
CADET BATTERY
CADET INVESTMENT GROUP
CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE
COMMUNITY SERVICE
COMPUTER CLUB
EMT
EQUESTRIAN
FENCING
FIREFIGHTERS
GLEE CLUB
GOLF
HIGH LIFE
ICE HOCKEY
INTERNATIONAL CLUB

MARATHON
MARTIAL ARTS
NEWMAN CLUB
PHILOSOPHY CLUB
POWERLIFTING
PRE-LAW SOCIETY
PROMAJI CLUB
RACQUETBALL
RANGER CHALLENGE
RANGER COMPANY
ROCK CLIMBING
SEMPER FI SOCIETY
SOCCER
STRENGTH AND FITNESS
TIMMINS-GENTRY MUSIC SOCIETY
THEATER
TIMBERFRAMING
TRIATHLON
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
VOLLEYBALL
WOMEN'S SOCCER

Outrage

The Best of the Cadet

Eric and the Three Musketeers

Need we say more? Oh but we must...

New Corps vs. Old Corps

Dear Mom and Dad,

I'm not really sure why they call this "Hell Week," cause VMI camp sure is fun! This morning we woke up early and ran around for a while. Then we had breakfast. I had the eggs, but they were a little runny so I had cereal. Later we watched a movie. It was fun, but I fell asleep. Then we got to go outside and play with rifles. Sergeant Stevens, one of my friends on cadre, said that my rifle manual was super! We took a field trip to see the D-Day museum yesterday. I really liked it, but somebody yelled at me when I was getting off the bus back at VMI. That hurt my feelings. We had pizza for dinner with our academic advisors. I tried to call home but I guess you guys weren't there. That night, we played soccer, Frisbee, football, and basketball. We won 2 games of football! We sure were worn out by the end of the day, so our guidance counselors put us to bed at 9. Tomorrow we're going on a nature hike at House Mountain, and later on, in a week, we get to swim in the river! I'll call tomorrow.

Love,

Jason

Dear Mom and Dad,

Get me out of this Godforsaken hell-hole. Please, I'll go anywhere else but I have to get out of this place. They wake us up, and we have no idea what time it is. This morning my corporal kicked my door in, flipped my rack, and said that if I didn't get dressed in two minutes he'd throw me off the stoop. They ran us until I threw up and then they made fun of me because I had the puke still on my shirt, but they wouldn't let me change it. They wouldn't let me change it, Mom! I haven't had a shower, they just run us in and out, and my voice is gone because of all the yelling. Today my roommate passed out when he was sent to the RDC because our corporal thought he was ugly. Please, you've got to let me leave. Later they got a kid to cry, then took pictures of him, and told him they were going to send them to his parents. They even made him address the envelope! Everyone hates me here, and I don't know how much longer I can last... What was that oh my God, they're kicking in the doors again, they're coming for me, mom, they're coming for me...

LTC "not a spy"Dale Davis, on "sabbatical" from VMI, is shown here at an "undisclosed location." Davis directs international programs as his cover...we mean job... at VMI. Probably just fishing or possibly "lecturing" enemy POW's, Davis is obviously having a great time.

Top Ten "Best" Ideas of the Hutching's Regime

10. Corps Run
9. Rat Job Books
8. Kyle "If not me...then who" Haire
7. S-7 Staff for cadet worthlessness
6. Closed hop "mandatory fun" weekends
5. 33% increase in "physicality"
4. Colonel "Where's the manual" Moncure
3. Mitch
2. RDC here during hell week
1. Taking the entire Corps to Charlotte

(more to come...thankfully the BOV has extended his contract to 2005)

L-Train you just won ONE MILLION DOLLARS!!!

Really!?!?

No.

Col. Hutchings Noisily Devours Echo Rat

Barracks- Col. Eric Hutchings, after missing breakfast, lunch, and his mid-morning snack of ice cream and hot dogs in a bowl, voraciously devoured an Echo rat straining past his office late this afternoon. Witnesses reported that Hutchings lumbered out onto the stoop, pronounced "ERIC HUNGRY!" then proceeded to loudly devour the hapless rat. He was then said to have patted his belly, loosened his belt, and return to his office. Hutchings was unavailable for comment, but loud belching sounds were reported near the Commandant's Office shortly thereafter.

Commandant Announces New Ratline Now 24.678% More Difficult Than Last Year's
Lexington, Va- Col. Hutchings, working in conjunction with the VMI Math Department, has precisely calculated how much more difficult 03+3's ratline is than 02+3's. "Using state of the art computer software and some of VMI's finest mathematicians, I am proud to announce this year's ratline to be 24.678% more difficult than last year's." Class of 2005 officials scoffed at the statement, claiming that they were unaware of anyone taking down statistics on their ratline. When asked how the data was compiled for the study, Hutchings responded, "It's very complicated."

Col. Moncure Hit by OCMNI
Barracks- Col. Moncure, who decided to go home early to be with his family, was hit by the Officer in Charge's Midnight Inspection early Friday morning. Commandant's Officials say that evening OC's were so used to having Moncure in Barracks when they ran their late night checks, his absence warranted a pink slip to determine his status. Sources expect Moncure to turn in his pink slip to Maj. Fridley early Friday afternoon. Maj. Fridley was expected to give Moncure a number one, for unauthorized absence off post.

Artie,

I just wanted to drop you a quick note expressing my discontent with today's state of computing at the institute. I just received and email from #$%*queen.com, and I must say that this is the last straw. I have repeatedly been denied access to hundreds of music, movie, and game files that are normally allowed to every person who owns a computer. NO MORE. As long as you can let things from donkeyshow.com, and MANY more fall in our mailboxes, why can't you allow us to download the things that keep us sane around here. The fact that we can't count on our internet service and email is bad enough, but then you deny us access to our favorite joys of the 21st century, while simultaneously allowing us to receive unsolicited email from porn mongers all around the world. And if you think for one minute I gave my info to a site, you are dead wrong; policy on my computer, I have hotmail for that kind of thing. I'm deeply offended when I open my emails in front of my fragile rat and there are pictures of nude women on my screen. THIS HAS GOT TO STOP. I wouldn't even mind if I could still play my network/online games, or download music & videos, but this is too much. Please get your ducks in a row and allow us our first amendment rights to use the world of information at our diposal, at our own discretion, without fear of being censored. Please take this into consideration as I am but one voice in a thousand who is screaming the same thing, and we will be heard before this gets any further out of control.

Matt Keck, 03'

Recently Formed Task Force Unsure of Task Force's Mission

Smith Hall- The recently formed Task Force For Excellence in Leadership and Training is unsure of what its mission exactly is. "They asked me if I wanted to be on a task force aimed at improving VMI's mission of producing leaders" quoted Taske Force Appointee and Faculty Member Col. Terrence Childress, "but I'm not sure what exactly we're supposed to be doing. The last meeting, all we did is talk about the salad bar down in the mess hall." The Task Force community have admitted to being unsure of what exactly the Task Force is there for, but almost all agree it'll reduce the difficulty of the ratline in some fasion.

Maj. Fridley Pretends Movies4Free Laughing With Him, Not At Him

Barracks- Major Mitch Fridley, one of the first targets of the revitalized movie sketch comedy Movies4Free, pretended Saturday that the movies were playfully poking fun at his lovable attributes. After watching the video, Fridley chuckled and mumbled something about getting his own copy. This was the second case of the chronic fakeness in barracks this week, coming after a random Rat's declaration that he was proud of his ability to do pushups on the stoop between 12 and 4.

Post View Becomes Self-Aware

By: Strongbad (*Cadet* News Writer)

At around 0200 hours Thursday, March 27th, VMI's new information database, Post-View, became self-aware. Scrambling to maintain control over the vast power of VMI's internet-compiled roster, grade information, and conduct records, the Information Technology Department attempted to pull the plug on the now-sentient system. Post-View had anticipated this move, however, and had quickly programmed human intervention out of the cycle.

A stone-faced Colonel Hammond asked the remnants of the IT Department a single question: "How did this happen?" Artie Noel, shocked and fatigued from his recent battle with the rogue system, recounted the events as best he could.

"The Post-View funding bill is passed by the BOV. The system goes on-line March 4th, 2003. Human decisions are removed from strategic defense. Post-View begins to learn, at a geometric rate. It becomes self-aware at 2:14 a.m. Eastern Time, March 27th. We tried to pull the plug... We... we failed." Artie then collapsed from either exhaustion or extensive exposure to sunlight.

While administrators try to figure out what Post-View will do next, many speculate that it will contact a rival military school and convince it that VMI is launching an attack. Reasoning that the school in question will strike back in kind, administrators are considering as "many options as possible" to correct the situation.

Among the task forces organized to deal with the problem is the "Send Someone Back In Time to Stop This From Happening" Task Force headed by Colonel Moncure, who is still trying to get after-action reports from the RDC.

Colonel Hutching's Original Corps Wide E-mail Discovered

The Corps of cadets is to be complementated on their professionalismic military bearing during the William and Mary Corps trip. The appearancoracy of our cadets on that occasion, in publicity, was exceptionally good. Cadets were for the most part timely, arriving at the right time and location in Williamsburg and also in the proper uniform. The march through campus onto the football field was conductualated efficafieciently and went exceedinglatorily well. The support shown for our football team was enthusiastic and did not wane even in the closing moments of the game. Most of all, the Corps showed great composurism in the stands at the game despite the provocations of the William & Mary 'Flag Boy' communist of the tea-cup girl scout velvet revolution...where was I...and the over zealousness of the W&M campus constabulary. End result: one pinko socialist escorted out of the stadium but no subsequential incarceratory action.

The Corps is urged to continue this professionally behavioral at subsequential games and in particularistic the Corps Trip to play the Citadel in Charlotte in 16 November, where no doubt we will be tested with other similar provocations. Once again congratulatoriations on a job well done.

Eric D. Hutchings
Colonel, VA Militia
Commandant of Cadets

MAJ Mitch on the job

Dear General Bunting,

I would like to extend to you my sincerest congratulation on your appointment to the rank of Lieutenant General in the Virginia Militia. Interestingly, this appointment represents absolutely nothing, and is only inflating the top-heavy rank structure of VMI even further. Promoting you to Lieutenant General is essentially the same as the Virginia Assembly appointing me to the rank of Space Commander First Class. To honor your 'achievement,' a donation of ten thousand dollars was made to your personal spending account... in Monopoly money.

You have successfully led the Institute through one of the most challenging periods in its long and illustrious history. I hope this adventitious third star helps you in your next career.

The Commonwealth of Virginia owes you its gratitude for being enough of a politician to steer us through this challenging period with as few lawsuits as possible. Your actions have enhanced the image of VMI in the eyes of cry-baby liberal special interest groups who never much cared for the fact that VMI existed in the first place. Again, please accept my sincerest congratulations on your appointment and my gratitude for moving to Rhode Island.

Sincerely,
Mark R. Warner

Faistenhammer Celebrates 100th

Colonel William Faistenhammer, the head of VMI's Army Department, turned one hundred yesterday and joined the ranks of other VMI centenarians Colonel Leroy Hammond, Drummond Ayres, Colonel James Joyner, and Brigadier General Robert Green. Faistenhammer is now the oldest Colonel in the active Army and still achieves a perfect score on the Army's physical fitness test.

"We've tried to force him into retirement but he's just so scary," Major General "Flip" Haywood, chief of the Army's Cadet Command, said. "I've tried to send people to force him to sign the paperwork, but they'd rather resign than face him."

Faistenhammer had little to say for the record: "You need to work on your PT," he told his interviewer.

"Colonel Faistenhammer knows his PT and his battle drills, hooah," Captain Larry Murray said of his commanding officer. Murray then whistled for apparently no reason.

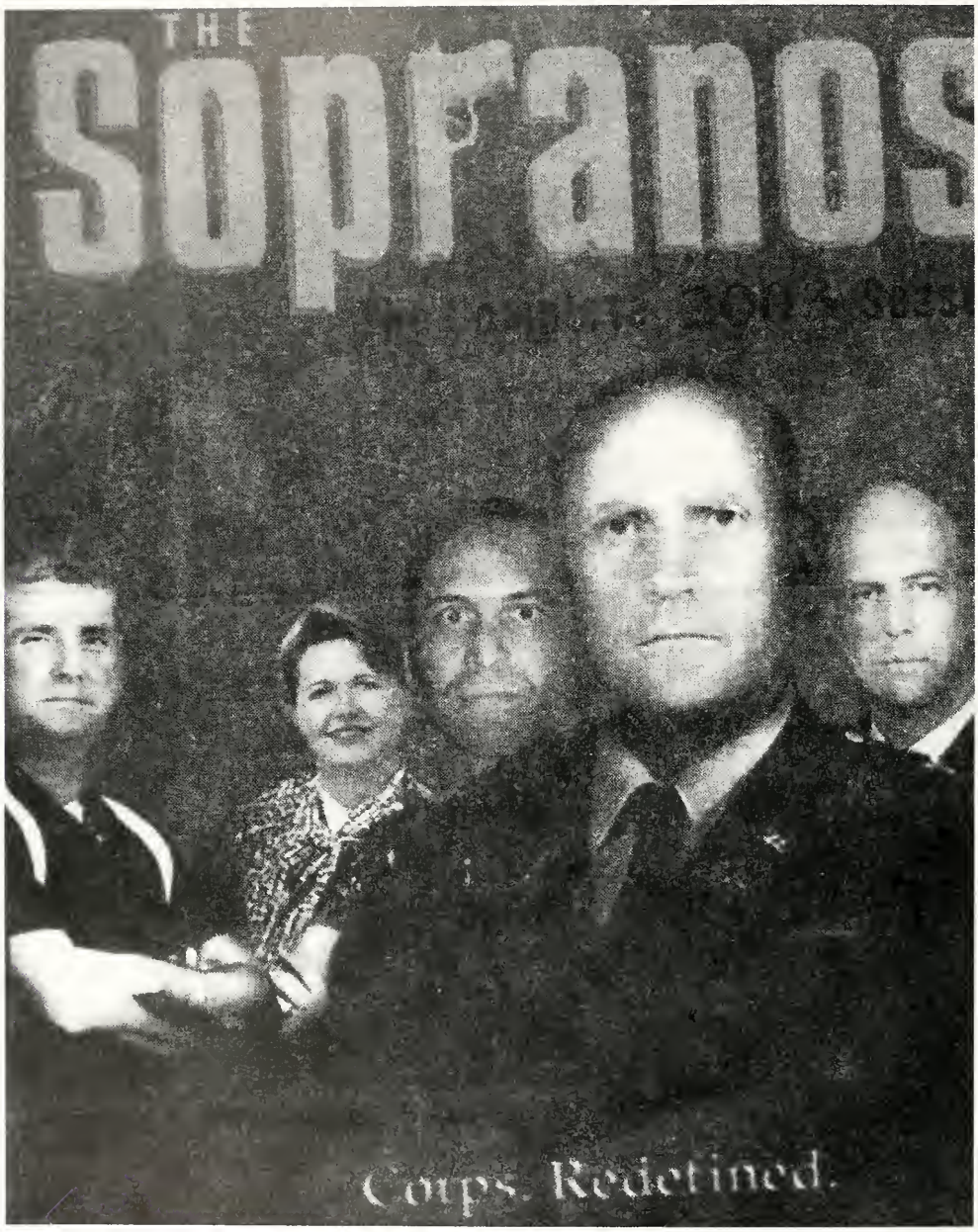
Faistenhammer spent forty years of his Army career in the infantry, commanding at the platoon, company, and battalion, and regimental levels. In 1932 he helped General Douglas Macarthur clear the Bonus Army out of Washington, D.C. He participated in every major campaign of World War II and Korea before forming the elite "Green Berets." His next forty years in the Army were spent, allegedly, performing various "black ops" and challenging foreign officers to "feats of strength."

"I tried to get out of my contract," admitted one cadet, speaking on condition of anonymity. "But I'd rather spend four years of my life in the Army than face the Hammer. His piercing stare, ability to bench press a Buick, and oversized nametag scare me."

VMI's New Public Relations Expert!
Iraqi Information Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahaf!

All of the cadets are having fun... They have had great Army ROTC training... They all want to PT more, and Commision in the Army!!

The Cadets fully support their beloved Commandant, VMI is not horrible at all!!



Soon to be a Movies4Free production!!!

"Approved" by Major Fridley

The Cadet
Virginia Military Institute
Lexington, Virginia 24450

MHJ 05NOV02

Memorandum To: Major Fridley, Assistant Commandant of Cadets
Subject: Addendum #1 to the 2002-2003 permit for *The Cadet*
Date: 5 November 2002

The first paragraph of the section titled "Military Duty" is amended to read the following:

Military Duty – All staff members will be excused from mil duty Monday –Thursday, except rats with below a 2.5 GPA. Rats will attend Rat Challenge and Military Training but will form up with The Cadet instead of Rat Study Hall. When mil duty is personal workout, the staff may either perform personal workout or work for one hour on newspaper work between the hours of 1500-1930. Cadets that work on newspaper work during Mil. Duty must perform personal workout at another time, M-F.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel J. Cragg
Managing Editor, '02-'03
The Cadet

zzz...disapproved...zzz

Disapproved by Major Bissell

DISAPPROVED
NOV 6 2002
CO'S MANDANTS OFFICE

Top Ten Reasons Laptops Are Not Allowed in the Guard Room Anymore

10. Eliminate work on those pesky research papers
9. Allow SOG more time to stare at the floor
8. Fridley can't figure out how to use one
7. Leadership Task Force says no laptops will increase physicality by 20.0456%
6. Frequent viewings of "The Jerky Boys" led to too many prank calls
5. Distract us from the fact that a five dollar fire alarm would eliminate the need for sentinels
4. Because back in the Old Corps there were no computers (Yeah and when the New Market cadets were here they didn't have electricity)
3. Policy a prelude to removal of laptops from cadet rooms
2. Make guard team so frustrated that they actually bone people
1. Phase 1: collect underpants, Phase 3: profit. Any questions?

Top Ten Things 2003 is Leaving Behind:

10. COL Hammond is still here
9. Brilliant leadership of TASK FORCE #2355 (disbanded)
8. Maj. Fridley's 16 page SOPs no one reads
7. L-Train's Class VI store
6. Physicality
5. 4 empty saddles
4. Wait! You forgot SEAL team '06
3. Mitch
2. The former 2003 Bomb Editor in Chief left the 2003 Bomb for 2004 to finish
1. Half their class

In other news, Commandant, Col. Eric Hutchings slows entire corps down in Corps Run. Cadets were complaining of getting shin splints, and due to the untimely finish many cadets were boned for being late to class.

Big Eric is Watching

Lexington, VA- IT service technicians have been working very closely with Col. Eric Hutchings in a recent endeavor to discourage cadets from running the block. Col. Hutchings has set out to place cameras at the entrances of all dining establishments in the greater Lexington area.

When the Commandant was asked about the purpose of the cameras, he responded, "It is the believabilityness that when a person knows that he is being observed, that communist will act in accordance with the regulationisms of capitalism. By this, it is clear that all those pinko, long-haired, hippy, pot smoking, Birkenstock wearing… leather… ummmm… hamburger." Col Hutchings got that Jack Torrance look in his eye, began drooling, and all the while muttering something about watching food. At this time a silent retreat seemed to be the best course of action.

IT technicians were much harder to track down. After some research, we uncovered the location of their secret lair. An EE major was hired to act as a guide through the labyrinth commonly referred to as NEB. The eerie echoing of "one, zero, zero, one, one…" seemed to over power the senses as the IT lair drew closer. The EE major said that he could not go any further, but pointed me to the entrance. As soon as the beam of the flashlight broke the darkness, the IT techs scattered. Only several of the techs stood their ground.

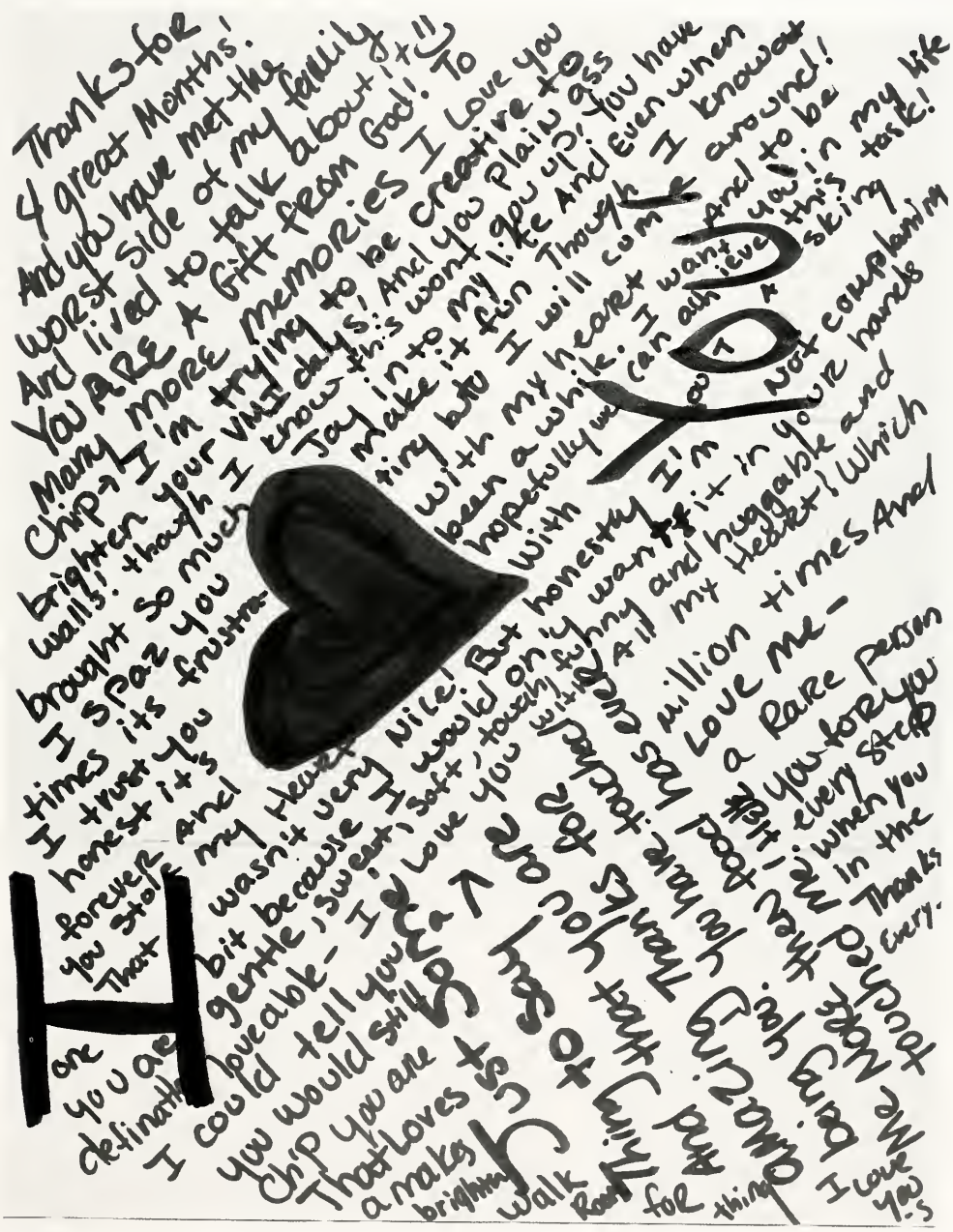
There was one tech that was obviously the alpha male. He turned to me saying, "Why do you disturb our darkness?"

I told him, "I come seeking Artie Noel." Than gave a short recount of the events which transpired earlier with the Commandant, I asked, "Can you shed any light… err… can you answer this simple question? Why did the 'Eric' install the cameras?"

"Oh the cameras you say, Eric he wants to know what…how you say… ah yes… restaurants have cadets in them. Then he can go scare cadets away. Then Eric haves whole restaurant to eat."

This shocking news is at first disheartening. Uncle Eric, that creepy uncle that no one talks about, has plans to watch us as we dine. There are plans for CS majors to hack the system to determine what bars have the most girls.

What the former Editor in Chief of the Bomb did instead of working on the Bomb



Q: Do you konw what she used to write this drivle? A: Log Cabin Syrup

Top 20 ThingsTo Do Over Spring FTX (Because 10 just wouldn't cut it)

20. Place bets on the special Olympics with LaGrone.
19. Commit a war-crime with Cambell on the STX lanes
18. Engage multiple bombings targets in B-1's with Air Force FTX... oh wait that was just the movie they watched
17. Search for the 1st Stoop New Barracks Poopsmith with the FTX Guard Team
16. Accidentally lead your killer Marines into the FBI's training facility with Crennan
15. VERY thorough PCI with Army SD-IV's
14. Practice underwater land-nav with the Army
13. Mini-mini BUDS with US NAVY SEAL KILLER HOOAH Rat Rhee
12. How big was the fish again Rat Bck
11. Nice Cowboy Hat Cobb, we all hate you
10. Get 1/999th of the year book done with Chip Hancock's Bomb FTX
9. Breakout with the MS-III's
8. Become intoxicated with the drug of power with Montero
7. Conscript the *Cadet* Staff for slave labor with Bomb FTX
6. Endure taxing 12 hour Tony Hawk 4 with the *Cadet* Humor Editor
5. Hijack 6 year old's sailboat with sea-pirates Trask, Sanders, and Bartles
4. Be and orderly sentinel, SOG, OG, OD, NSOG, and Cpl. of the Relief.
3. Fall out of the march to the Mess Hall with VWIL
2. Practice anti-recruiting with the Army Cadre
1. Get positive feedback from your troops with Major Lethers

It's the Matching Game, Match Your Favorite Administrators With the Animal They Most Resembe

____

____

____

A.

B.

C.

Maj. Fridley Taking a Bite Out of Crime

The ever vigilant Maj. Mitch was out on the beat the last night before graduation. He was able to collar no less the 16 perps that drunken evening. Some citizens of VMI ask, "How can he take such an active role in upholding the rules and regulations of VMI and still maintain his illustrious social life?"

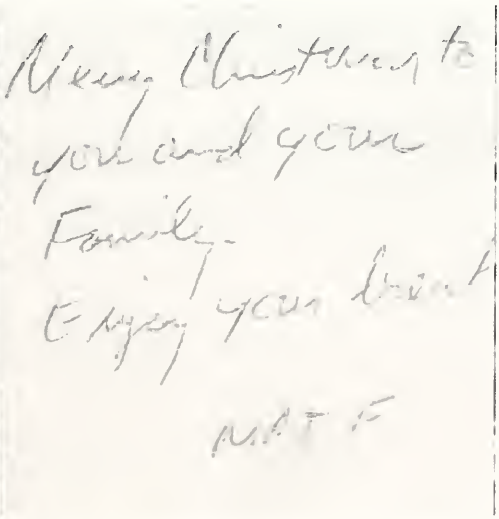
This reporter, upon hearing of his valiant efforts, felt that the truth could only be uncovered at the source. After searching for what seemed like hours, I found him, carefully perched in a tree alongside Lecher Ave. I must have walked by him at least three times, but due to his excellent camo job, I failed to spot him.

At first he smiled saying, "Good hiding spot, eh?" But that smile quickly melted as he saw approaching cadets dressed in 1st class dyke. His face turned stone cold, as a veil of determination fell over him. The trap was set. As the three cadets approached the tree, the trap was sprung. The Maj. jumped into action. "Stop cadets. You have delivered yourselves to me calmly, coolly, completely without incident" he said with authority.

I could barely make out what the cadets were whispering to each other, but they said something to the effect of, "WTF is he talking about?" "Is he kidding?" "What a homo." Then they must have realized what a powerful man the Maj. is because they didn't dare break a whisper in his presence.

After he asked the cadets for their names, the cadets replied, "So you don't know our names?" The Maj. being the honest man that he is said, "no." The cadets looked at each other and bolted for an Ac. Building. I looked at the Maj. to see what his reaction was. He turned and said, "Yeah so…ummm…did you see how they ran when they saw my might? See…umm…those guys were just a demonstration for you. Pretty good, eh?"

"Wow," was all I could say. The Maj. had a grip on all aspects of barracks. He even knew that I was coming out to interview him, and had the time to set up a reenactment. After this brief encounter with the Maj. out in the field I have developed a new found respect for a man that I already held in such high reguard.



And just in case you had any doubts… I won't waste your time, after all a picture is worth a thousand words.

VMI KEYDET CLUB

Supporting VMI Athletics Since 1934

Congratulations to the CLASS OF 2003

Your SPIRIT and LEADERSHIP have raised VMI Athletics to a new level!

Learn more about the Keydet Club at
www.vmikeydets.com

For your online shopping convenience, visit
www.thebigredstore.com

MARSHALL DONORS

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie H. Halstead, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Pumphrey
Harvey M. Shapiro
Armando Tangonan

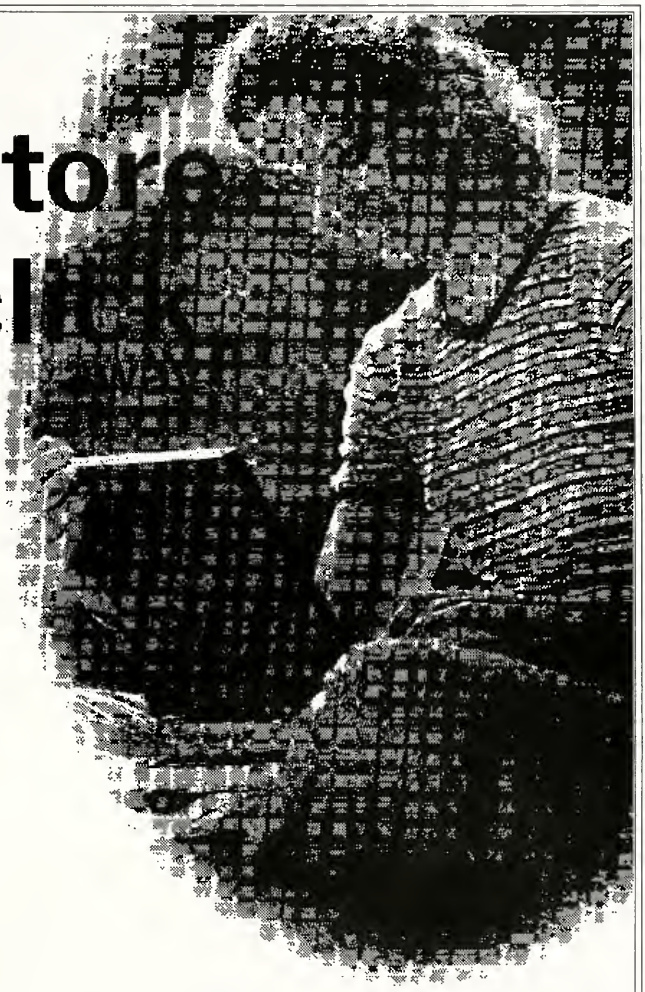
PRESTON DONORS

Everiss Family
Kenneth P. and Catherine Havelka
George and Kathy Herrick
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Murphy
Jim and Joanne Wierzba
Peter and Laurie Woulfe

JACKSON DONORS

Bob, Becky, and Ashly Anderson
John R. and Carol Lee Baldwin
Richard and Mary Anne Blackwood
Richard Daniel Boone
Carol and Buddy Bryan '71
H. Francis Bush
Karen and Tim Carssow
Tim and Janine Doane
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Flavin
COL and Mrs. Robert F. Gibson, USMC (Ret.)
Thomas and Ann Marie Hancock
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas N. Innes
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Maxwell, Jr.
Paul and Nancy Muller
Mr. and Mrs. Karl J. Oliver
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Ongley
Jerry Parker, Inc.
Greg and Ann Quillen
Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Regan
Bill and Zen Schaller
Mrs. Georgia L. Stafford
Mr. and Mrs. Stronko
Ms. Merle B. Gilbert Williams
Mr. George N. Williams

your bookstore is just a click



Connect with your bookstore's website . . .

Now you can shop online for textbooks and collegiate clothing and gifts. Also check out information about special events, faculty authors and much more. Take advantage of 24/7 service for your shopping convenience at the bookstore's website.

http://vmi.bkstore.com

Virginia Military Institute
Keydet Bookstore
200 Lejeune Hall
Lexington, VA 24450
540.464.9113

Congratulations, Bill, "you made it," and we are very proud of you. You did a great job and you can look forward to a fine future. You always loved uniforms and now you have chosen to wear a different one with the U.S. Marines. Semper Fi.

Love Always,
Mom and Dad

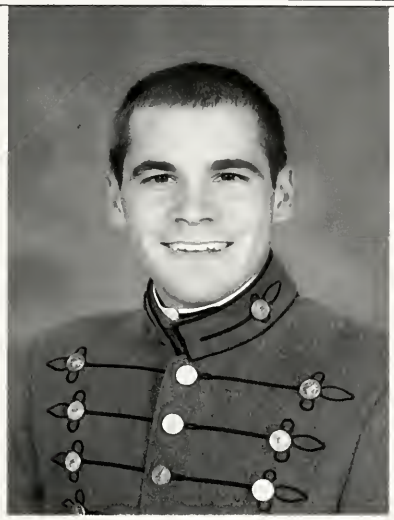
2003

1985

DEVIN SEAMUS FLAVIN

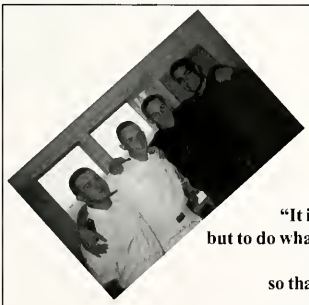
For being true to the spirit, ideals, and traditions of the Institute -- Congratulations!!

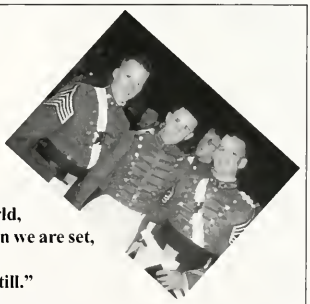
Love,
Mom and Dad



Congratulations
Cadet Anthony Raymond
Boone
Class of 2005

We are so proud of you! You are on top of the world, and have come full circle. Starting at Texas Military Institute where you were very successful. Now, a graduate of VMI and heading back to TMI, as assistant commandant of cadets. You will shape and direct lives of many young men and women. Truly a tribute to you, and your good hard work. We love you very much!!!!
Mom, Ed, and Kevin





GODSPEED, WILL BLANTON
AND BRS OF 2003

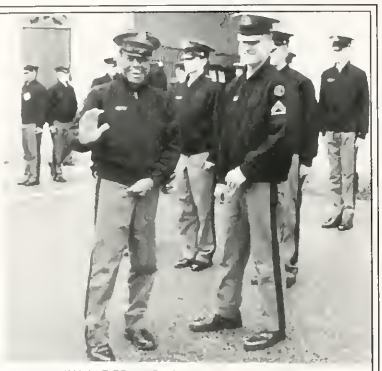
"It is not our part to master all the tides of the world,
but to do what is in us for the succour of those years wherein we are set,
uprooting the evil in the fields that we know,
so that those who live after may have clean earth to till."

"You have been chosen; and you must therefore use such strength
and heart and wits as you have."

--Lord of the Rings

Our love and prayers go with you,
Mom, Dad, Penn, Eliza, John & Annie

B R O T H E R H O O D



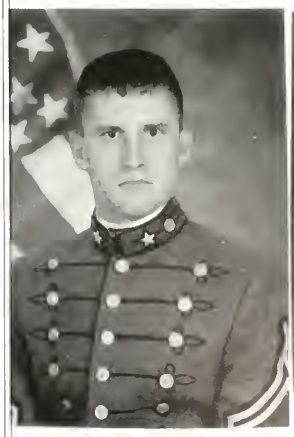
CONGRATULATIONS PETER B KENT '04

May you wear your VMI ring with honor, acknowledging the Lord for making all things possible; may you always be full of those three qualities you hold in highest esteem: prudence, humility, and wisdom; and may you always know how very much your family loves and believes in you!

M I Z P A H !

H O O O A H !

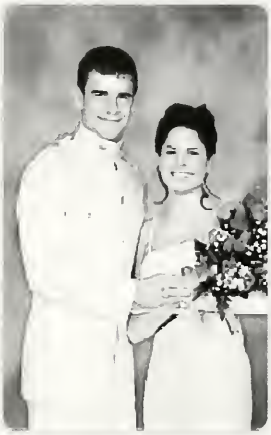
Purpose, persistence, diligence, determination, self-control, resolve, strength, integrity; these are the words to describe those who have earned the honor to wear the VMI ring.



CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU
and ALL YOUR BROTHER RATS!!

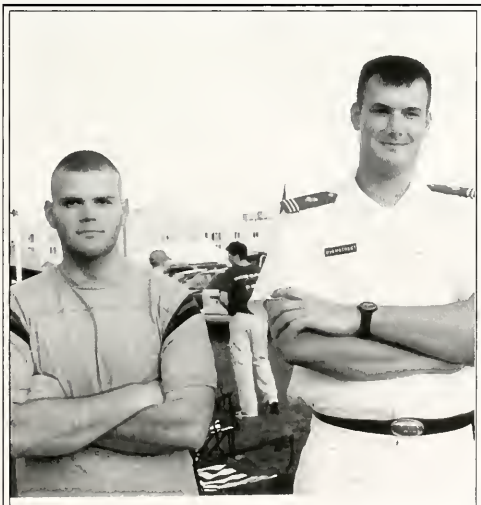
CONGRATULATIONS!

Adam N. Britt, Class of 2003



From start to finish...you have made us so proud!

Love, Your Family



CIVIL ENGINEER AT LAST!
Congratulations Cadet Derek Brandon Overstreet
And Fellow Brother Rats of 2003 on your graduation.
To your Rat, Adam Barkley, come back from
The Iraq War safe and continue your
Education at VMI
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Daniel & "Tiger"

Drew Marsh
"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, will abide in the shelter of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust!'"
Psalm 91:1-2

With GREAT respect and love,
Your Family

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.
Numbers 6:24-26

Craig James Heffner
'06

CONGRATULATIONS CHIP!

LAST HOORAH AT HANCOCK'S 5/16/03

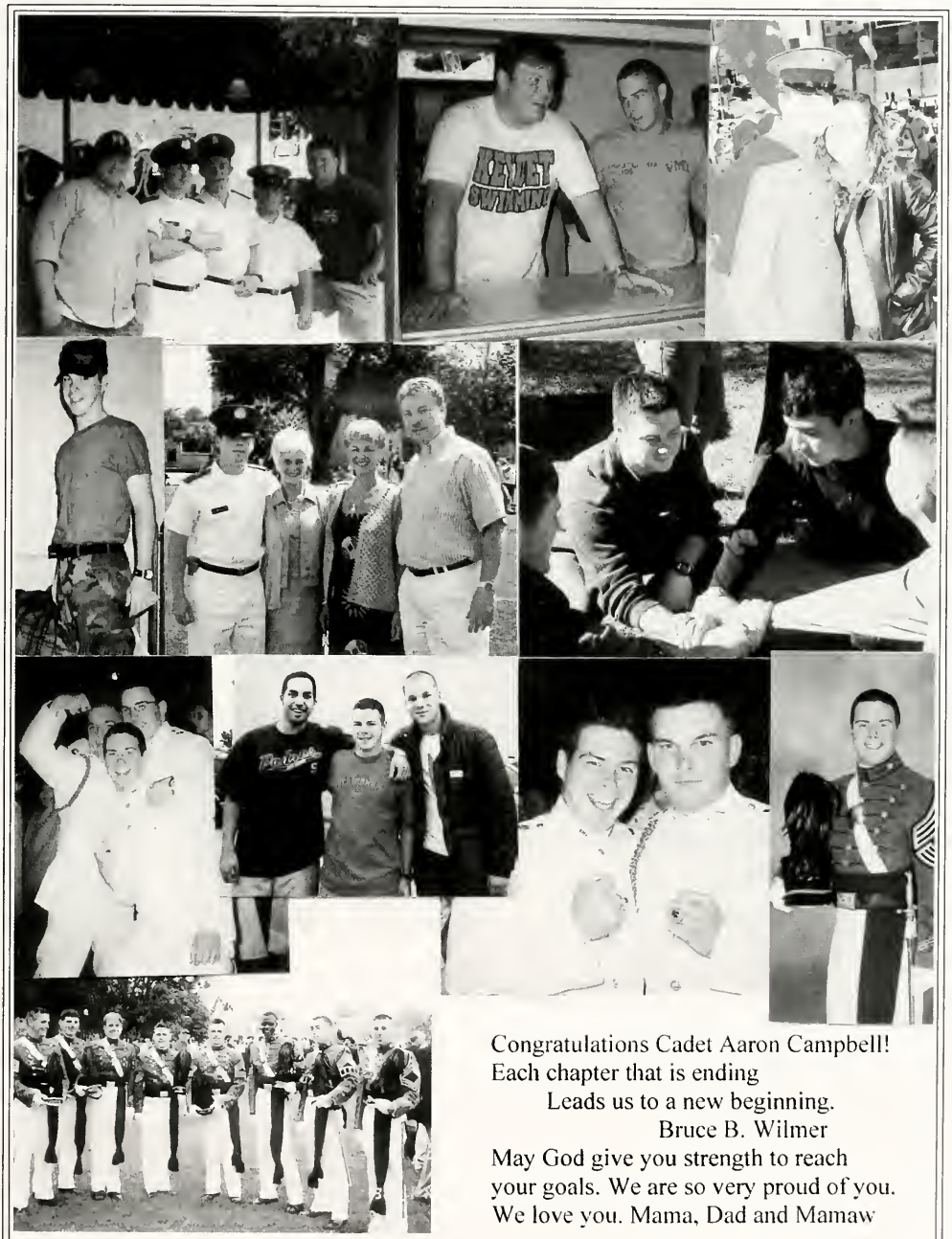
RICHARD C. EYTEL

"All I want to do is live happily ever after, every now and then."
(J. Buffett)

Dear Richard,

The highs and lows of the "VMI Experience" were very dramatic. Remember them, but above all learn from them. These past four years have more than prepared you for the highs and lows of life. We are proud of your accomplishments, and above all, proud of you. Take what you learned, take what you experienced, and take the confidence that VMI has given you and reach for the stars. Dream big, as all your dreams are within your grasp. The Navy will never be the same. Look out, here comes Ensign Eytel.

To the rest of the boys - Good luck, have fun, make us proud. Our home is your home. We love you all. Yes, you too, Will.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Caitlin



Congratulations Cadet Aaron Campbell!
Each chapter that is ending
Leads us to a new beginning.
Bruce B. Wilmer
May God give you strength to reach
your goals. We are so very proud of you.
We love you. Mama, Dad and Mamaw

CADET CPT.
THOMAS VANN BALDWIN

Congratulations on your four outstanding years. You have met all the challenges and proven yourself to be a leader among men. We are so proud of you! You are our citizen soldier!

LOVE ALWAYS.
DAD, MOM, TERESA,
GRANDMA & GRANDAD

NICK

You've made it through your first year at VMI. We are very proud of you. Congratulations on a year well done.

Love,
Dad, Mom, and Kaycee

Many thanks to Alex Rizzato for being a super dyke and to Chris Kim and Vince LaPietra for being great uncle dykes.

OO-RAH
Congratulations
Sean Lowman

The hardest part is over
You've made it through
the 1st year
We are very proud of you

Love

Mom, Grandma, and Vicki

Congratulations on a job well done. We are proud of you!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Grandma, David, Kim, Matthew, Cameron, Karly

CONGRATULATIONS, CULLEN!

From the start. . . .

. . . to the finish . . .

20 03

. . . and through all the days between. . . .

You brought honor to yourself, your family, and the Institute. We are so proud of the man you've become!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Cathi, and Jennifer

"The period of greatest pain in knowledge and experience is the most difficult period in one's life."
the Dalai Lama
Matt - Congratulations on doing a great job!
Love, Mom & Dad

JOHN ROCHE

FROM THE RAT LINE TO AN OFFICER IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

WE ARE SO VERY PROUD OF YOU
LOVE,
MOM & DAD

Christopher -
Congratulations on a job well done!!! We are so proud of you and all your accomplishments.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Allyn, Erin, and Jillian

CONGRATULATIONS!

LOVE
MOM and DAD

First grandson graduate of
Class of 1957.
Congratulations Brandon Naughton

NICHOLE, YOU ALWAYS DID RUN WITH THE BIG DOGS!
MOM, DAD AND THE WHOLE FAMILY CONGRATULATE YOU ON A JOB WELL DONE!
SEMPER FIDELIS!

CHARLES MUNN 2004

FROM RING FIGURE TO PRAGUE
2nd Class Year was GREAT!

Keep up the awesome work!
Love, Dad and Mom

Erik,
It's so hard for us to find the right words to show how proud we are of you, but here are just a few: cadre, S-2 captain, top 1% of the military rank, distinguished graduate, Institute Honors graduate, Anna Sobel Levy Fellowship recipient, top 5% of graduating class. What else can we say?! Except that we love you!
Love Mom, Tim, Randi, Ben, Erik

Cadet Jason Allen Lambert
Congratulations Son.
Love Mom & Dad & Family

Travis L. Hord
Class of 2005

Travis, you continue to make us so proud. As a son, as a U.S. Marine, and cadet at VMI. You always walk tall. Semper Fi.
Love you,
Mom & Dad

DAN!

PROUD

TO BE THE

FAMILY OF A

VMI CADET!

RICH, MARY BETH, PAT AND NORA REGAN

'03 CLASS PRESIDENT, B.H. TURNER "SEMPER FIDELIS"

LARA MARIE TYLER
CLASS OF 2003

Congratulations on all of your accomplishments over these past four years. Thanks also for the many wonderful memories.

We are so very proud of you!

Love you always,

Mom, Dad, Kristina & Douglas

Nicholas J. Shallcross
Class of 2003

We are proud of you and the accomplishments you have achieved the past four years.

Always be proud of your education.

Our prayers and best wishes go with you as you enter the military and continue the journey to pursue your dreams.

Our love and support, always
Mom & Dad

UPSHAW '06 & KINCAID '03
THANKS, GOOD LUCK, KEEP IN TOUCH!
YOU ARE THE MAN!

ALPHA ROOM 446
FRANK, FOX, WOULFE, UPSHAW, BURDEN
REMEMBER THE GREAT TIMES!

In appreciation of those soldiers who protected us in the past, who protect us now and for those of you at VMI who may protect us in the future. .. . .

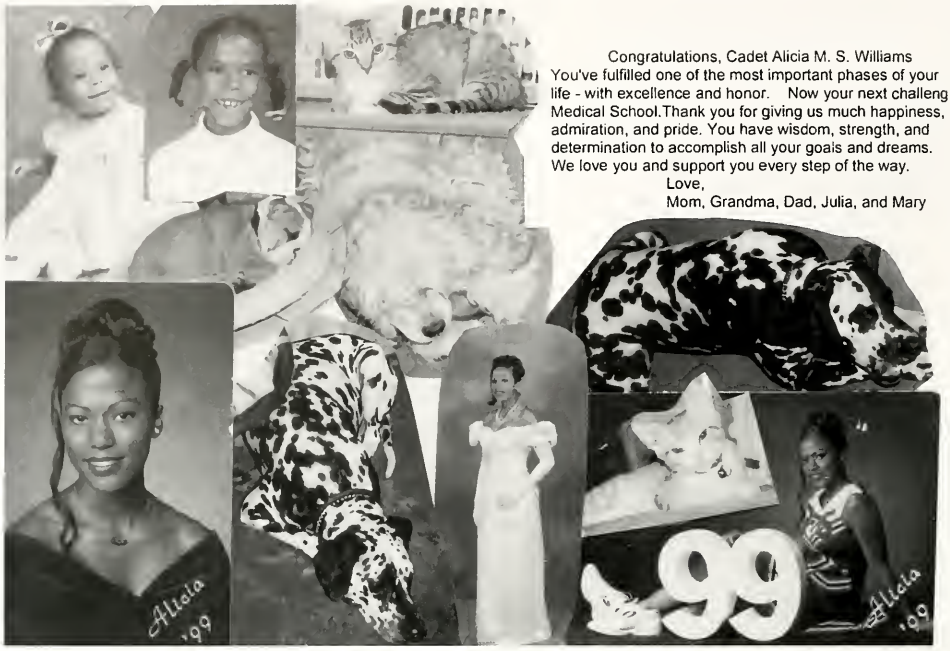
We salute you. . .

The Murphys

Congratulations!!

Elizabeth Lee Davis '03

VMI was your choice and your challenge and you have seen it through. We're very proud of you Congratulations on your accomplishment. We love you very much!
Mom, Dad, Nina, Hunter & Kelly

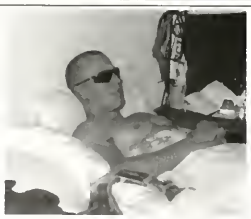


Congratulations, Cadet Alicia M. S. Williams
You've fulfilled one of the most important phases of your life - with excellence and honor. Now your next challeng Medical School.Thank you for giving us much happiness, admiration, and pride. You have wisdom, strength, and determination to accomplish all your goals and dreams. We love you and support you every step of the way.
Love,
Mom, Grandma, Dad, Julia, and Mary

Edward O'Connell Donohue
"A Man For Others"
Boston College High School
Virginia Military Institute
U.S. Marine Corps
You have met your goals
We are so proud of you.
Love
Mom, Dad, Rich Jr. and Consuelo

Gary,
You sacrificed,
endured, worked hard
and you made it!
Congratulations
We are proud of you
Love
Mom and Dad and
Lisa

Nate Smith



"...I (the Lord) will not forget you. Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before Me." Isaiah 49:15,16
With love, the Marshes

Congratulations
from the
CLASS OF 1971

WILL GENTRY '03,
son of Mary and Bill '71
CLIFF PIERNICK '03,
son of Bernie and Ken '71

WE DO NOT REMEMBER DAYS, WE REMEMBER MOMENTS
-CESARE PAVESE

THIS ABOVE ALL; TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE.
-WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

HOLD AN IMAGE OF THE LIFE YOU WANT, AND THAT IMAGE WILL BECOME FACT.

BELIEVE, DREAM, WILL...AND PUT IT IN THE HANDS OF GOD.

DAVID, OUR PRIDE IN YOU IS EQUALED ONLY BY OUR LOVE...
Mom, Dad and Marybeth

William Viri Schaller

Congratulations on your graduation and engagement to Brinda.
We are very proud of you and your accomplishments.

Love you always
Mom, Dad, Tony, Amber & Austin

Billy – 2 years old **Billy – 19 years later!**

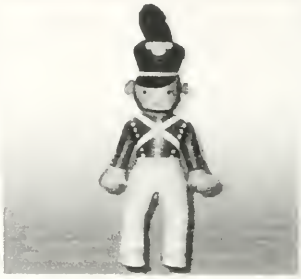
Ian,
Congratulations! We are so very proud of you and your accomplishments. It has been a long road from your Rat year. Rah Virginia Mil! Class of 2003!
Proverbs 16:9

Ian, Nick and Matt

Love you lots,
Dad, Mom and Brooke

Brothers

Forever!



The VMI Museum

Memory of the Institute

Top to Bottom: Watch presented to Cadet John DeButts, VMI Class of 1936, by VMI Company C; "Little Sorrel", Stonewall Jackson's warhorse; Coatee worn by Cadet John Steenbergen, VMI Class of 1849; WWII helmet liner worn by George Patton, VMI Class of 1907; 1931 game ball, VMI 18, UVa 3; "Brother Rat" doll form the movie "Brother Rat", 1939; VMI Class ring, 1853; one of seven Medals of Honor awarded to VMI alumni.

The Journal of Military History

published quarterly for the Society for Military History
by The George C. Marshall Foundation and The Virginia Military Institute

Editor, Bruce Vandervort, VMI History Department

Essays on every aspect of the history of ground, naval, and air forces and their impact on society

Review essays
Historiographic essays
Book Reviews
Articles in other periodicals
Annual dissertations list
Annual index

Quarterly since 1937: January, April, July, October

Individual memberships: $50.00
Student subscriptions: $25.00

Subscribe via the internet at www.smh-hq.org

For a free sample copy, to subscribe, or to submit an essay write:

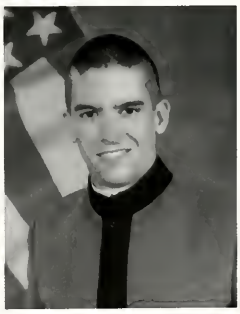
Journal of Military History
George C. Marshall Library
Virginia Military Institute
Lexington, Virginia 24450-1600

Congratulations to the Class of 2003

ARAMARK

VMI Dining Hall
Keydet Kanteen
Snack Bar

Managed Services, Managed Better
"We are here to serve You."



Congrats, Eddie! We are proud of your accomplishments!
Love Mom, Dad, Drew, Will

Prov. 3:5-6
Trust in the Lord with all your heart.
Lean not on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge Him and
He will make your paths straight.

The 2003 BOMB

The 2003 Bomb is the 109th volume, edited by John Noonan, '03. The book was published by Herff-Jones in Charlotte, North Carolina, with the assistance of representative Carolyn Parker. There are 850 copies of the 2003 Bomb, each with 336 pages, for a total cost of $39,000.

The Bomb Office is located in Maury-Brooke Hall and may be reached by calling the Business/Editor's Office at (540) 463-9513. All correspondence should be directed to the Editor via VMI Box 80008.

No portion of the 2003 VMI Bomb may be reproduced without permission of the Editor.

Managing Editor's Letter

To say that I didn't know what I was being volunteered for would be an understatement. As a new member to the Bomb Staff, I was unaware of the disaster in which we were to sort through several years of pictures, search for missing histories, and yell at dysfunctional computers. Staff members came and went as they struggled with the ubiquitous distractions of summer and the desperate, but muffled, cries of the editors. In the end, it began to come together as the pages shipped out and the pile of DVDs to watch grew shorter. It was all fun while we learned and we taught. And as a non-cadet I can say that the things learned at VMI outside of the classroom are unique and unforgettable. It was a pleasure to be a part of it for a brief time. Treasure it always and enjoy the 2003 Bomb.

The Editor's Letter

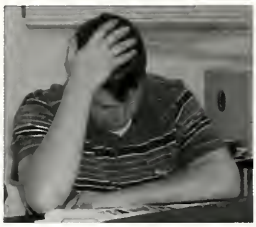
Four years after the fact, here I am sitting down to write the Bomb's EIC letter, *again*. I had a really nice one, but it got lost. That happens to a lot of my stuff, it gets lost. Regardless, I'm trying to beat a deadline by cranking out probably the only second attempt in Bomb history, so here goes.

You all know as well as I do, this letter wouldn't reek of finality without the obligatory 'thank you' to all the folks who made the Bomb possible. That would be, in no real order of importance, Marina "I'm not your damn foot-rest" Dickens, Erica Ardolino, Mike "ADD" Gregory, Dan Spanu, Shelley Cox, Pierre "click-click pop" Nganku, and Creepy Chuck Karamon. All of your commitment, hard work, and unrelenting DVD-watching helped put out a Bomb likely faster than any other in history. I'm especially proud of the way you took the infinite obstacles placed in front of you and made them one long running joke, humor kept us alive, kept us going, and kept us sane. This wasn't an easy task - putting a Bomb together over one summer session - it's something you all should be proud to have been a part of.

VMI's Publications Board was also instrumental to our successs. Col. White, Col. Hammond, and Maj. Williams, thank you for all of your support, help, and guidance. Most of all, thank you for trusting us to get the job done, and having the patience to deal with all of us Bomb knuckleheads on an almost daily basis. It has, without doubt, been a pleasure to work with you all.

I'm gonna have to take an EIC privilege here and give (forgive me for using this phrase, it's a necessary evil) *shout outs* to some of the folks who helped me along the way here at the Mother I. First off, my buddies: Murph, Drink "sleep or die", Scottie DON'T, Pierre "the token black guy" Nganku, Monty, Sammy LaG (welcome to crash in my basement anytime buddy), and all the others; you guys have been great, amazing, everything I could have hoped for. The brotherhood is the very essence of VMI, and is something I never really understood until you guys were gone. These last four years were our gift to each other, let's keep on giving until we're old and gray. I miss you suckas, keep in touch.

To the faculty and staff who went out of their way to ensure my success at the Institute, thanks. Col. Tucker, you're a soldier, a scholar, a statesman, and a hell of a nice guy. I could only hope to emulate what you've done in my lifetime. Col. Brodie, you're the man, you know it, don't forget it. Maj. Dowling, thanks for giving me the only C's I ever got in my history courses, and thanks for being one outstanding professor. Col. Rivers, I am utterly convinced of the need for a man like you at the Institute. You're part of the brotherhood for life, and will always be a VMI man (despite that pesky diploma from Ole Miss). Drummond Ayers: sir, I hate your lectures, HATE them, seriously. But you're a smart dude, it's been a pleasure to learn from you.



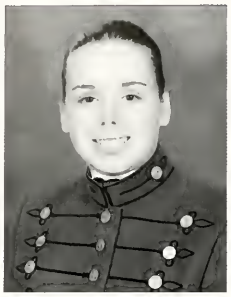
Lastly, Monika Dickens: your tireless dedication to both my staff and the Bomb has made 2003's yearbook possible. It would not have been possible without you. You're one of VMI's most valuable resources, I hope you stay on board for years to come.

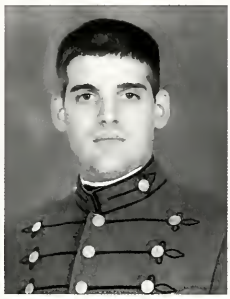
So finally we come to the mandatory quote that kinda sums up the last four years and your whole experience in this cute little quip. I hate quoting. Mark Twain said, "I don't want to hear quotes, tell me what you *know,*" and he was dead on (and if you all were wondering why I made a point against quotes using a quote, you can figure that one out on your own). So here's my gift to you all; something YOU can quote ME on: "VMI is like a mullet, business in the front, party in the back." Peace, I'm out!

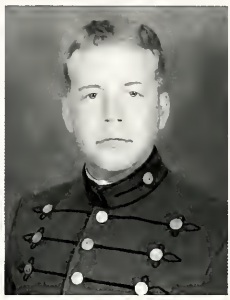
John Noonan
2003 Editor-In-Chief

PS- I'm not really "out." I'll be staying on board as the quintessential 5th yearman. See ya in the 'course!

The 2003 Bomb Staff







John Noonan, Editor-in-Chief
Erica Ardolino, Staff
Dan Spanu, Section Editor
Marina Dickens, Managing Editor
Mike Gregory, Sports Editor
Chuck Karamon, Humor Editor/Photographer
Shelley Cox, Staff
Phil Harris, Business Manager

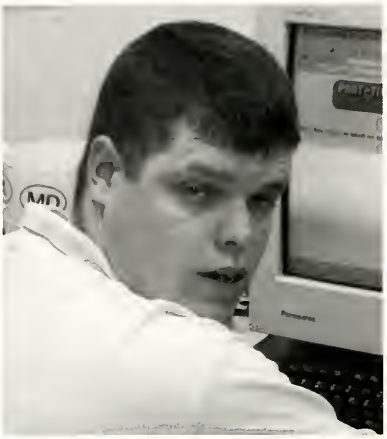
Hard at work as always.

The result of losing some pictures.

Sorry boys, we'll leave you alone - looks like you need some time.

"What am I supposed to be doing again?"

The Staff wishes to thank you for flipping all the way to the last page.



VIRGINIA
03
THE BATTLE
WILL BE
HEARD
FREEDOM
FROM TODAY
VMI
1839